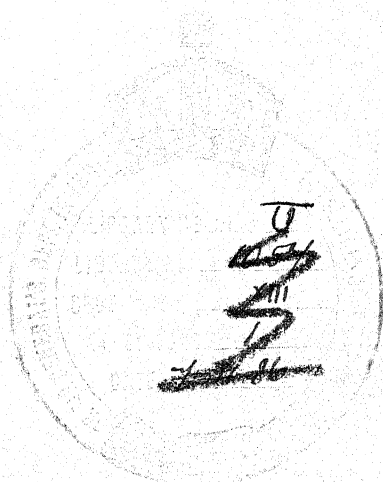
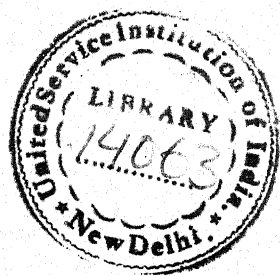


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HISTORICAL RECORDS  
OF  
THE BRITISH ARMY.





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## GENERAL ORDERS.

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*HORSE-GUARDS,*  
*1st January, 1836.*

HIS MAJESTY has been pleased to command, that, with a view of doing the fullest justice to Regiments, as well as to Individuals who have distinguished themselves by their Bravery in Action with the Enemy, an Account of the Services of every Regiment in the British Army shall be published under the superintendence and direction of the Adjutant-General; and that this Account shall contain the following particulars, viz.,

— The Period and Circumstances of the Original Formation of the Regiment; The Stations at which it has been from time to time employed; The Battles, Sieges, and other Military Operations, in which it has been engaged, particularly specifying any Achievement it may have performed, and the Colours, Trophies, &c., it may have captured from the Enemy.

— The Names of the Officers and the number of Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates, Killed or Wounded by the Enemy, specifying the Place and Date of the Action.

— The Names of those Officers, who, in consideration of their Gallant Services and Meritorious Conduct in Engagements with the Enemy, have been distinguished with Titles, Medals, or other Marks of His Majesty's gracious favour.

— The Names of all such Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates as may have specially signalized themselves in Action.

And,

— The Badges and Devices which the Regiment may have been permitted to bear, and the Causes on account of which such Badges or Devices, or any other Marks of Distinction, have been granted.

By Command of the Right Honourable

GENERAL LORD HILL,

*Commanding-in-Chief.*

JOHN MACDONALD,

*Adjutant-General.*

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## P R E F A C E.

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THE character and credit of the British Army must chiefly depend upon the zeal and ardour, by which all who enter into its service are animated, and consequently it is of the highest importance that any measure calculated to excite the spirit of emulation, by which alone great and gallant actions are achieved, should be adopted.

Nothing can more fully tend to the accomplishment of this desirable object, than a full display of the noble deeds with which the Military History of our country abounds. To hold forth these bright examples to the imitation of the youthful soldier, and thus to incite him to emulate the meritorious conduct of those who have preceded him in their honourable career, are among the motives that have given rise to the present publication.

The operations of the British Troops are, indeed, announced in the "London Gazette," from whence they are transferred into the public prints: the achievements of our armies are thus made known at the time of their occurrence, and receive the tribute of praise and admiration to which they are entitled. On extraordinary occasions, the Houses of Parliament have been in the habit of conferring on the Commanders, and the Officers and Troops acting under

their orders, expressions of approbation and of thanks for their skill and bravery, and these testimonials, confirmed by the high honour of their Sovereign's Approbation, constitute the reward which the soldier most highly prizes.

It has not, however, until late years, been the practice (which appears to have long prevailed in some of the Continental armies) for British Regiments to keep regular records of their services and achievements. Hence some difficulty has been experienced in obtaining, particularly from the old Regiments, an authentic account of their origin and subsequent services.

This defect will now be remedied, in consequence of His Majesty having been pleased to command, that every Regiment shall in future keep a full and ample record of its services at home and abroad.

From the materials thus collected, the country will henceforth derive information as to the difficulties and privations which chequer the career of those who embrace the military profession. In Great Britain, where so large a number of persons are devoted to the active concerns of agriculture, manufactures, and commerce, and where these pursuits have, for so long a period, been undisturbed by the *presence of war*, which few other countries have escaped, comparatively little is known of the vicissitudes of active service, and of the casualties of climate, to which, even during peace, the British Troops are exposed in every part of the globe, with little or no interval of repose.

In their tranquil enjoyment of the blessings which the

country derives from the industry and the enterprise of the agriculturist and the trader, its happy inhabitants may be supposed not often to reflect on the perilous duties of the soldier and the sailor,—on their sufferings,—and on the sacrifice of valuable life, by which so many national benefits are obtained and preserved.

The conduct of the British Troops, their valour, and endurance, have shone conspicuously under great and trying difficulties; and their character has been established in Continental warfare by the irresistible spirit with which they have effected debarkations in spite of the most formidable opposition, and by the gallantry and steadiness with which they have maintained their advantages against superior numbers.

In the official Reports made by the respective Commanders, ample justice has generally been done to the gallant exertions of the Corps employed; but the details of their services, and of acts of individual bravery, can only be fully given in the Annals of the various Regiments.

These Records are now preparing for publication, under His Majesty's special authority, by Mr. RICHARD CANNON, Principal Clerk of the Adjutant-General's Office; and while the perusal of them cannot fail to be useful and interesting to military men of every rank, it is considered that they will also afford entertainment and information to the general reader, particularly to those who may have served in the Army, or who have relatives in the Service.

There exists in the breasts of most of those who have

served, or are serving, in the Army, an *Esprit de Corps*—an attachment to every thing belonging to their Regiment; to such persons a narrative of the services of their own Corps cannot fail to prove interesting. Authentic accounts of the actions of the great,—the valiant,—the loyal, have always been of paramount interest with a brave and civilized people. Great Britain has produced a race of heroes who, in moments of danger and terror, have stood, “firm as the rocks of their native shore;” and when half the World has been arrayed against them, they have fought the battles of their Country with unshaken fortitude. It is presumed that a record of achievements in war,—victories so complete and surprising, gained by our countrymen,—our brothers,—our fellow-citizens in arms,—a record which revives the memory of the brave, and brings their gallant deeds before us, will certainly prove acceptable to the public.

Biographical memoirs of the Colonels and other distinguished Officers, will be introduced in the Records of their respective Regiments, and the Honorary Distinctions which have, from time to time, been conferred upon each Regiment, as testifying the value and importance of its services, will be faithfully set forth.

As a convenient mode of Publication, the Record of each Regiment will be printed in a distinct number, so that when the whole shall be completed, the Parts may be bound up in numerical succession.

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HISTORICAL RECORD  
OF  
THE FORTY-SECOND,  
OR,  
THE ROYAL HIGHLAND REGIMENT  
OF  
F O O T:

CONTAINING AN ACCOUNT OF  
THE FORMATION OF SIX COMPANIES OF  
HIGHLANDERS IN 1729,

WHICH WERE TERMED  
"THE BLACK WATCH,"  
AND WERE REGIMENTED

IN 1739;

AND OF  
THE SUBSEQUENT SERVICES OF THE  
REGIMENT TO 1844.

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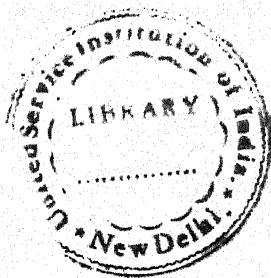
ILLUSTRATED WITH PLATES OF THE COLOURS AND  
UNIFORM.

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THE FORTY-SECOND,  
OR, THE  
ROYAL HIGHLAND REGIMENT  
OF  
FOOT,

BEARS ON ITS REGIMENTAL COLOUR  
THE ROYAL CYPHER WITHIN THE GARTER,  
AND THE CROWN OVER IT:  
THE FIGURE OF ST. ANDREW,  
WITH THE MOTTO  
*NEMO ME IMPUNE LACESSIT:*

IN THE SECOND, THIRD, AND FOURTH CORNERS  
THE ROYAL CYPHER AND CROWN:

THE SPHYNX,  
WITH THE WORD  
"EGYPT,"

IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS GALLANTRY IN EGYPT IN 1801;

ALSO THE WORDS

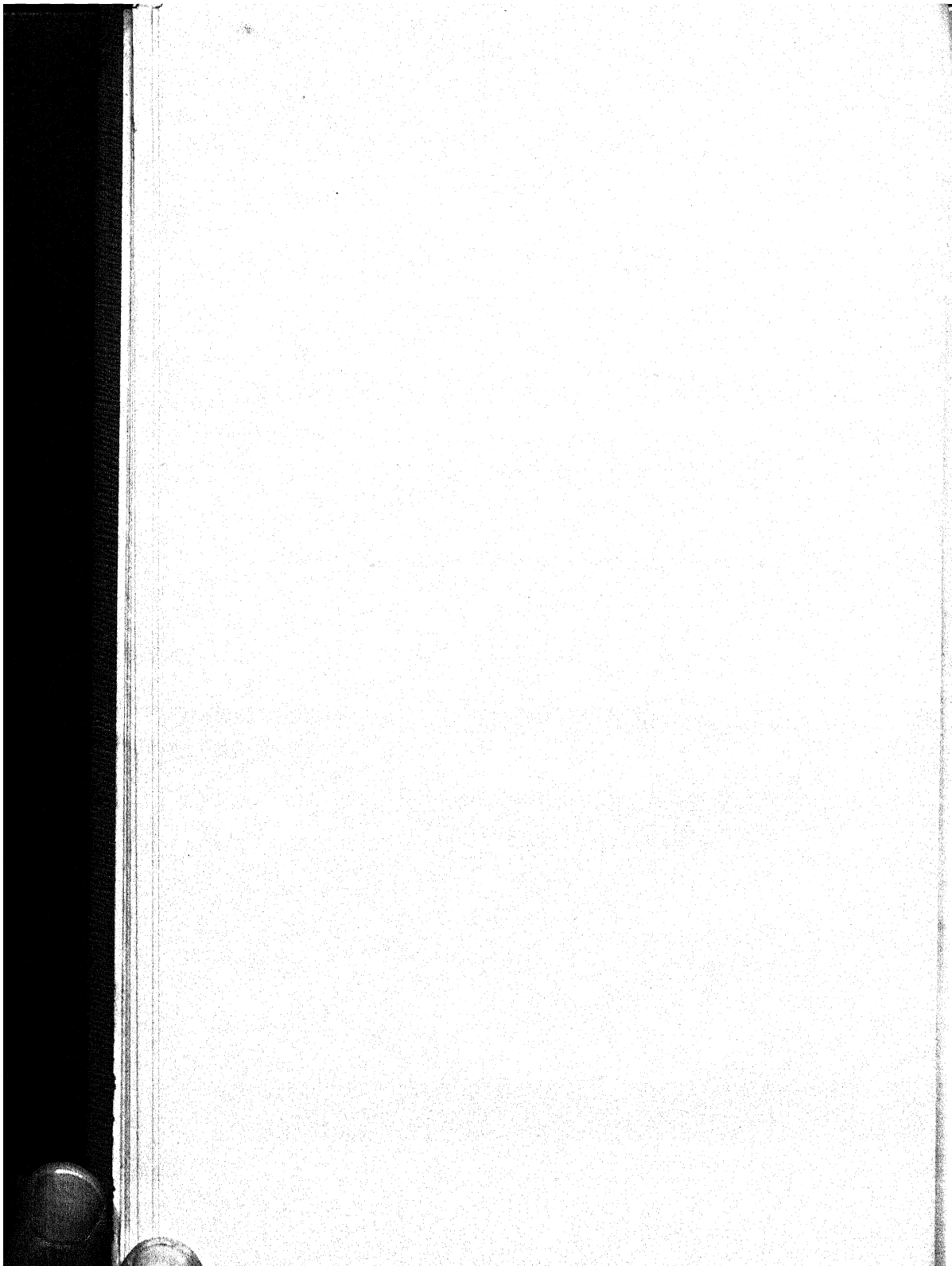
"CORUNNA," "FUENTES D'ONOR," "PYRENEES,"  
"NIVELLE," "NIVE," "ORTHESES," "TOULOUSE,"  
AND "PENINSULA,"

FOR ITS SERVICES IN PORTUGAL, SPAIN, AND FRANCE,  
FROM 1808 TO 1814;

AND THE WORD

"WATERLOO,"

IN HONOUR OF ITS DISTINGUISHED CONDUCT  
ON THE 18TH JUNE, 1815.



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## INTRODUCTORY NOTICE.

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IN a simple record of the services of the FORTY-SECOND REGIMENT,—the oldest of the far-famed Highland Corps,—the reader will not expect a laboured introduction to the history, the social and political condition of the Highlands and Isles of Scotland.

Those who desire to enter into this interesting subject, will find ample gratification in the pages of the “History of the Highlands and of the Highland Clans,” by James Browne, Esq., LL.D.;—a work of singular learning and research.

But, while the compiler rejects elaborate investigation, he thinks he is doing but justice to his subject, in presenting to the reader the following notices of the Highland military character, from the pen of one, who, in the words of Sir John Moore, “possessed a soldier’s mind,”—of one who “has often been near the scene of service,”—of one who “has served in three British wars;”—of a military philosopher, in short, of the rarest endowments,—of the most enlarged military observation and experience,—of the most scrupulous honour and integrity, whether we regard the author or the individual.

From Dr. ROBERT JACKSON'S "VIEW OF THE FORMATION, DISCIPLINE, AND ECONOMY OF ARMIES," we derive the following illustrations of our subject.

After a brief notice of the character of the Highland race, which Dr. Jackson conceives to be of mixed Celtic and Gothic stock, he passes on to the influence of the "Gaelic song" of old, when, "to obtain a name in war was the first object of the Gael,—an object, if credit be due to the song, sought in defence of friends rather than in the aggression of foes. There was a spirit of heroism in the times; and the warlike fame of the Highlander, whether aboriginal Celt or usurping Goth, was high in this age of chivalry."

"The picture of life drawn in these poems is primitive; the characters of the actors are simple and warlike; the sentiments are generous and noble, and they are not merely ideal. Characters, not unlike those which embellish the poems alluded to, occurred occasionally in the last century among native Highlanders. They were considered, and will continue to be considered, by the sons of civilization, as characters of romance; they are, notwithstanding, real, and resemblances are not altogether unknown to the writer." × "The Highlander of all classes is noted for hospitality, generosity, and friendship where he is a friend. The submission of the common Highlander to the chief and chieftains of the clan, was perfect in past time; but it



was not the servility of a slave in fear of the whip ; it was the attachment of a son to a father, accompanied with reverence for authority from pre-eminence of station. The clan was supposed to be of one blood ; and, as such, it was held together by one connexion. All the members of the clan owed submission to the chief, but to no power, in their own idea, superior to the chief. The meanest subject of the clan considered the cause of the chief as the cause of himself, and his own cause as the cause of the chief: they were thus one\*. The idea of this reciprocal action and reaction was fostered with pride ; and, under this idea, the warlike onset of Highlanders, as stimulated by resentment and cemented by sympathy from blood, was impetuous as a torrent from the mountain,—not to be resisted by common means of defence. Besides the cause now alluded to, the tones of the bag-pipe,—a musical instrument peculiar to the Highlanders of Scotland,—were singularly powerful in rousing and in supporting courage in the conflict of battle. There are tones in the bag-pipe which penetrate to the inmost fibres of the frame, and rivet, so to speak, the whole

---

\* “Blessed be that spirit of nationality or clanship, or by whatever name the principle may be called, which opens the heart of man to his brother man ; and in spite of the trained selfishness to which he is educated in artificial life, bids the warm and glorious feeling of sympathy gush forth in circumstances of sorrow and of trouble, to cheer the drooping heart of the unfortunate, and to prevent his swearing hatred to his own species.”—“*The Black Watch*,” by Andrew Picken.

action of the soul to one point: it is thus that a charge to battle, sounded in *pibroch*, absorbs all the distracting cares and selfish sensibilities denominated fears, inflames the courage to enthusiasm, and renders a common man a hero. The sound of the instrument transports the Highlander with joy in common circumstances; it renders him insensible to danger in the conflicts of war."

Recent discussion gives additional interest to the following description of the arming and mode of attack of the native Highlander:—"The arms, armour, and mode of warlike attack are peculiar. The arms and armour are well contrived for execution or defence, the mode of applying them impressive—almost irresistible." ×

"Their conduct in the year 1745 proves very distinctly that they are neither a ferocious nor a cruel people. No troops ever, perhaps, traversed a country which might be deemed hostile, leaving so few traces of outrage behind them as were left by the Highlanders, in the year 1745. They are better known at the present time than they were then, and they are known to be eminent for honesty and fidelity, where confidence is given them. They possess exalted notions of honour, warm friendships, and much national pride." × "The germ of education is scattered every where; and, as Highlanders have strong minds, and a great desire to learn, they take lessons from what they accidentally hear and see,

and they actually attain, in the course of their lives, to a higher scale in military sagacity than any other people in the kingdom, or perhaps than any other peasant people in Europe." × "The sentiment of the Highlander is strong; it is a principle as it were in the constitution of his nature. He may be said to have a patriarchal education, and he is attached to kingly power with a blind devotion. He is repugnant from republicanism; in short, he is a soldier who looks to a chief, not a philosopher who considers the sons of man as equal in condition to one another." × × "Born and bred among the mountains, where the spirit of war and heroism was ingrafted on the frame, the Highlander, not relishing or not possessing capacity for mechanic arts, became the lowest of labourers in luxurious cities, or, entering into the army, proved himself to be the best and bravest of soldiers." Of the disinclination from peaceful employment, and propensity for war here spoken of, Dr. Jackson elsewhere affords us a striking illustration. While passing through the Isle of Skye\* in the autumn

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\* "The Isle of Skye has, within the last forty years, furnished for the public service, twenty-one Lieutenant-Generals and Major-Generals; forty-five Lieutenant-Colonels; six hundred Majors, Captains, Lieutenants and Subalterns; ten thousand foot soldiers; one hundred and twenty pipers; four Governors of British Colonies; one Governor-General; one Adjutant-General; one Chief-Baron of England; and one Judge of the Supreme Court of Scotland. The Generals may be classed thus:—eight Macdonalds, six Macleods, two Macallisters, two Macaskills, one Mackinnon, one Elder, and one Macqueen. The Isle

of 1783, he met a man of great age whose shoulder had, through a recent fall, been dislocated. This condition was speedily rectified by our traveller. "As there seemed to be something rather uncommon about the old man, I asked if he had lived all his life in the Highlands? No:—he said he made one of the FORTY-SECOND REGIMENT when they were first raised; then had gone with them to Germany; but when he had heard that his Prince was landed in the North, he purchased, or had made such interest that he procured his discharge; came home, and enlisted under his banner. He fought at Culloden, and was wounded. After everything was settled, he returned to his old regiment, and served with it till he received another wound that rendered him unfit for service. He now, he said, lived the best way he could, on his pension."

Such is the native character of the warlike race called into the ranks of the British army, by the first Chatham.

We have now to consider the conduct of this remarkable people since being subject to rule of modern military discipline; and, in doing so, it is believed that no more just or authentic record can be referred to than the distinguished one already quoted.

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of Skye is forty-five miles long, and about fifteen in mean breadth. Truly the inhabitants are a wonderous people. It may be mentioned that this island is the birth-place of Cuthullin, the celebrated hero mentioned in Ossian's Poems."—*Inverness Journal*.

Dr. Jackson properly begins his description with the physical character of the Highland soldier, such as he presents himself in the ranks :—

“Some of the Highlanders are tall and erect, of great muscular power, of a dignified and majestic air, the *élite*, as it were, of the Gothic race; the greater number are of comparatively low stature, compact and firmly knit in their joints, hardy in bodily frame, without grace or elegance in manner and movement, but of great endurance of fatigue and hard living. The countenance of the higher class of Highlanders is, for the most part, strongly marked as a warlike countenance; the face is broad, the cheek bones high, the visage manly—stern rather than comely—the features are often harsh, and the skin is coarse, as much exposed to weather. But though the Highlander, gentleman or gilly, be not so smooth, plump, and polished as his southern neighbour, the ensemble of the figure commands attention, and indicates character.

“The limbs of the Highlander are strong and sinewy, the frame hardy, and of great physical power, in proportion to size. He endures cold, hunger, and fatigue with patience; in other words, he has an elasticity or pride of mind which does not feel, or which refuses to complain of hardship. The air of the gentleman is ordinarily majestic; the air and gait of the gilly is not graceful. He walks with a bended knee, and does not walk with grace,

but his movement has energy; and between walking and trotting, and by an interchange of pace, he performs long journies with facility, particularly on broken and irregular ground, such as he has been accustomed to traverse in his native country."

With this sketch of the exterior, our author introduces us to the moral qualities;—the warm, and even ardent friendships, the strong enmities and resentments, the close union through circumstances of locality and community of blood;—the courage which, he says, "the Highlander possesses in a pre-eminent degree;" and hence—"the Highlanders of Scotland, born and reared under the circumstances stated, marshalled for action by clans, according to ancient usage, led into action by chiefs who possess confidence from an opinion of knowledge, and love from the influence of blood, may be calculated upon as returning victorious, or dying in the grasp of the enemy.

"Scotch Highlanders have a courage devoted to honour; but they have an impetuosity which, if not well understood, and skilfully directed, is liable to error. The Scotch fight individually as if the cause were their own, not as if it were the cause of a commander only,—and they fight impassioned. Whether training and discipline may bring them in time to the apathy of German soldiers, further experience will determine; but the Highlanders are even now impetuous; and, if they fail to accomplish

their object, they cannot be withdrawn from it like those who fight a battle by the job.

“The object stands in their own view; the eye is fixed upon it; they rush towards it, seize it, and proclaim victory with exultation. They are not, as now said, the instruments of a commander. The cause of action, which is prominent in their own minds, determines the course and whets the courage. If the course be hidden from the view by contingency, or guarded from the grasp by unsurmountable obstacle, the movement stagnates; and, as it does not advance, it is disposed to recoil, and does not often recoil by the rule of tactic. The mind becomes blank; the powers are paralyzed, the steps retrograde, and sometimes assume the retrograde flight. This character of ardour belongs to Highland troops. It is a quality in the Highlander's nature; and this being so, it is the duty of the officer who commands an army or a division of Highlanders, to study, so as to know and estimate effect, and not, through ignorance, misapply means, or misplace instruments, and thereby concert his own misfortune, and the ruin of others.

“If ardour to close with the enemy be the characteristic of Highlanders, it is evident that Highlanders, as acting with armies, are not troops to be employed in masked manœuvres, demonstrations, and encounters with a view to diversion. The suggestion is a rule of common sense; and it is

moreover a rule, well founded in the writer's opinion, never to bring Highlanders under fire in the field, where they are precluded by circumstances from extinguishing it by the bayonet. The Highlander does not sustain a distant fire with coolness, or retire with temper from an enterprize to which his front has been turned. He may be trusted to cover a retreat—the most difficult and dangerous—if such duty be assigned to him as a duty of honour and distinction; a retreat, in failure of an enterprize of his own, is likely, under his own management, to degenerate into a rout.

“But though this is true, and sometimes exemplified in history, it may still be observed that, even under failure, a note of the *pibroch*, or a single word that strikes a spring of national feeling, not unfrequently arrests the retrograde, stimulates to forward movement, and infuses an energy into the arm which washes out, in the blood of the enemy, the stain of momentary forgetfulness. The Highlander upon the whole is a soldier of the first quality; but, as already said, he requires to see his object fully, and to come into contact with it in all its extent. He then feels the impression of his duty through a channel which he understands, and he acts consistently in consequence of the impression, that is, in consequence of the impulse of his own internal sentiment, rather than the external impulse of the command of another; for it



is often verified in experience that, where the enemy is before the Highlander and nearly in contact with him, the authority of the officer is in a measure null; the duty is notwithstanding done, and well done, by the impulses of natural instinct.

“Different nations have different excellences, or different defects, in their warlike character. Some excel in the use of missile weapons; the excellence of the Highlander lies in close combat with the naked point. Close charge was his ancient mode of attack; and he still charges with more impetuosity, or sustains the charge with more firmness, that is, disputes the ground with more obstinacy, than almost any other man in Europe,—presumptively from impressions engrafted on organism by national custom. Some nations, who sustain the distant combat with courage, turn with fear from the countenance of an enraged enemy. The Highlander advances towards his antagonist with ardour; and, if circumstances permit him to grasp him, as man grasps with man, his courage is assured\*.”

Referring to the conduct of the Highland regiments in the first American war, Dr. Jackson observes that, “The Highland corps mustered

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\* With such qualities for the *mêlée* as our author here exhibits, what results might we not anticipate from a torrent of Highland Cavalry—the *PROCELLA EQUESTRIS*—to quote the beautiful language of Scripture?

strong in the American revolutionary war. The issue of the contest was not such as could be called glorious to the British arms; but the fighting character of the English soldier was not tarnished, and that of the Highlander, as more known, was better appreciated and more highly valued."

Before concluding our introduction, and proceeding to the narration of events, the compiler is anxious to place before his readers the sentiments of so great an authority on a question of national importance, viz,—the formation and maintenance of NATIONAL REGIMENTS.

Dr. Jackson emphatically urges the advantages of such corps, and the policy of permanently maintaining them. This he does in a manner that evinces, in common with all his other writings, a profound knowledge of human nature, and of the military character. He urges the vast importance of preserving and improving the moral qualities; on the principle proved by the history of nations, that "the moral virtue of the soldier has a greater share in the permanent success of arms than his physical prowess;" adding, "that no stronger cause for good conduct exists among soldiers than the hopes that the report of such good conduct will be conveyed to his native home,—to be known to the companions of his youth, whom he cherishes in idea as the friends of his old age." He urges the desirableness, on

various grounds, of classing men in the ranks according to moral and physical correspondence and similitude; and comments on the influences of locality, on the community in domestic habit, thought, and custom, to be found amongst men congregated from the same districts and townships. All these influences, and the many others which he enumerates, he considers "of powerful operation in war." He states, moreover, that "the majority of soldiers are emulous to do well, that their parents may be honoured; they are fearful to do wrong, lest their parents should be disgraced. Such motive exists, and it operates so strongly on the Highlanders of Scotland, that the feeling connected with it may be considered as a main cause of the uniform good conduct of Highland soldiers in every service where they have been employed."

The reasoning of our author, and the example of heroic devotion with which he illustrates his arguments, are so characteristic, that it is deemed a duty to the service to present them here:—"If military materials be thrown together promiscuously—that is, arranged by no other rule except that of size or quantity of matter, as it is admitted that the individual parts possess different propensities and different powers of action, it is plain that the instrument composed of these different and independent parts has a tendency to act differently;

the parts are constrained to act on one object by stimulation or coercion only. In order to maintain the union contemplated by the tactician as the object of his training, one requires to be urged, another requires to be restrained; consequently the management is difficult, for, as the actual powers of exertion do not always correspond with the physical appearances, they are not always equally influenced to exert themselves by the impulse of the same internal motive.

“A military instrument, composed of heterogeneous parts, as here stated, cannot well be supposed to attain the highest point of excellence.

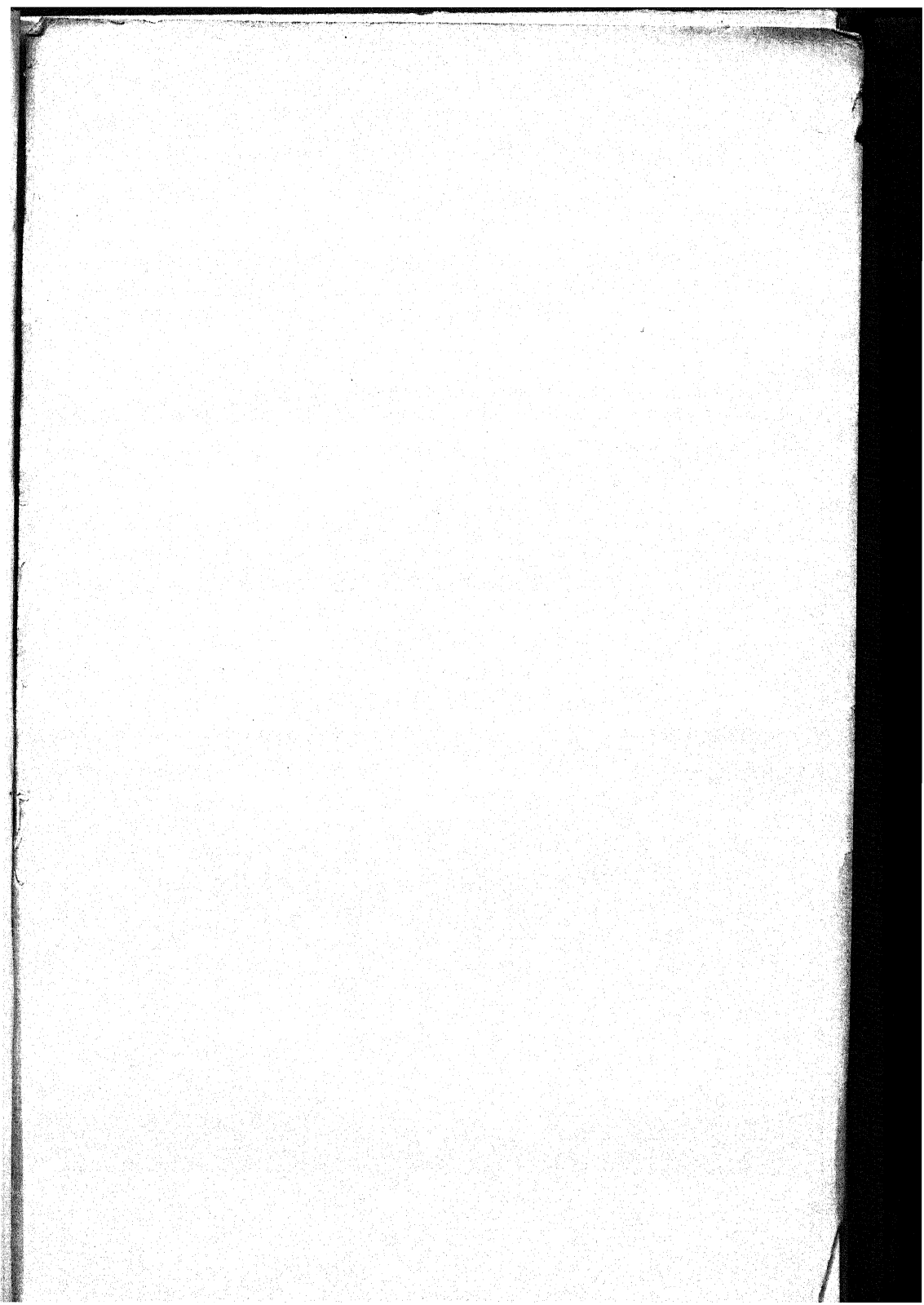
“Military excellence consists, as often hinted, in every part of the instrument acting with full force—acting from one principle and for one purpose; and hence it is evident that in a mixed fabric, composed of parts of unequal power and different temper, disunion is a consequence, if all act to the full extent of their power; or if disunion be not a consequence, the combined act must necessarily be shackled, and, as such, inferior, the strong being restrained from exertion for the sake of preserving union with the weak.

“The imperfection now stated necessarily attaches to regiments composed of different nations mixed promiscuously. It even attaches, in some degree, to regiments which are formed indiscriminately from the population of all the districts

or counties of an extensive kingdom. This assumption, anticipated by reasoning, is confirmed by experience in the military history of semibarbarous tribes, which are often observed, without the aid of tactic, as taught in modern schools, to stick together in danger, and to achieve acts of heroism beyond the comprehension of those who have no knowledge of man but as a part of a mechanical instrument of war. The fact has numerous proofs in the history of nations; but it has not a more decisive one than that which occurred in the late SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT in the revolutionary war of America. In the summer of the year 1779, a party of the Seventy-first Regiment, consisting of fifty-six men and five officers, was detached from a redoubt, at Stone-ferry, in South Carolina, for the purpose of reconnoitering the enemy, which was supposed to be advancing in force to attack the post. The instruction given to the officer who commanded went no further than to reconnoitre and retire upon the redoubt. The troops were new troops,—ardent as Highlanders usually are. They fell in with a strong column of the enemy (upwards of two thousand) within a short distance of the post; and, instead of retiring according to instruction, they thought proper to attack, with an instinctive view, it was supposed, to retard progress, and thereby to give time to those who were in the redoubt to make better preparation for defence.

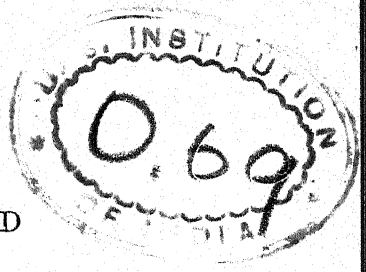
This they did; but they were themselves nearly destroyed. All the officers and non-commissioned officers were killed or wounded, and seven of the privates only remained on their legs at the end of the combat. The commanding officer fell, and, in falling, desired the few who still resisted to make the best of their way to the redoubt. They did not obey. The national sympathies were warm. National honour did not permit them to leave their officers in the field; and they actually persisted in covering their fallen comrades until a reinforcement arriving from head quarters, which was at some distance, induced the enemy to retire.

“Whether the attack made by this party was right or wrong, in a military point of view, does not concern the present question. The conduct in the act was heroic, and the authors of it had no skill in the tactic of military schools. The major part of them had been taken at sea on their passage to America, and had only been recently released from prison: the best part of them, in so far as regards manual and manœuvre, would have been sent to the awkward squad of a regiment of militia at the present day. The artificial lock-step was not known to them; but heroism of mind and social sympathy locked them together as one man in the hour of danger. They were only peasants of the Scottish mountains, but they rank in history with the Spartans who fought at Thermopylæ.”









HISTORICAL RECORD  
OF THE  
FORTY-SECOND  
OR,  
THE ROYAL HIGHLAND REGIMENT  
OF  
F O O T.

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THE inhabitants of various countries have acquired 1729  
celebrity in different ways; some in the fine arts,  
others in manufactures, commerce, agriculture, and  
maritime enterprise, and the Highlanders of Scotland  
have been conspicuous for the possession of every  
military virtue which adorns the character of the hero  
who has adopted the profession of arms. Naturally  
patient and brave, and inured to hardship in their  
youth in the hilly districts of a northern climate, these  
warlike mountaineers have always proved themselves  
a race of lion-like champions, valiant in the field,  
faithful, constant, generous in the hour of victory, and  
endued with calm perseverance under trial and dis-  
aster. Led by a native ardour for military fame, they  
have sought renown in distant lands, where they have  
been celebrated for martial achievements, and their  
services have been eagerly sought after by foreign  
potentates, and by renowned generals, who have  
admired and commended their intrepid bearing in  
moments of terror and danger, calculated to appal the  
bravest troops. For many centuries a band of Scottish

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1729 warriors formed the body-guard of the sovereigns of France, who confided in their valour and fidelity during periods of great danger. The famed "Scots Brigade," in the service of the United Provinces, is celebrated in the military annals of the sixteenth, seventeenth, and early part of the eighteenth centuries, for all the qualities of a valuable corps; and the prowess of the numerous Highland regiments which fought under Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden, and in the wars of Louis XIII. and Louis XIV., of France, was proclaimed by the voice of fame through all the countries of Christendom.

Among the British corps which have acquired distinction in the wars of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the FORTY-SECOND, or the ROYAL HIGHLAND REGIMENT, has been eminently conspicuous for gallantry and orderly conduct, equal to the highest anticipations which had been formed of this national Scots corps. Its formation commenced in 1729, under the following circumstances.

At the revolution in 1688, the majority of the clans adhered to the Stuart dynasty; but after three years' resistance they submitted to the government of King William III. In 1715 they again took arms, under the Earl of Mar, but finding their efforts unavailing, their leaders fled to the Continent, and the Highlanders returned to their homes. A fruitless attempt was made by the Spaniards to involve Scotland in civil war, in 1719, and from that period the country enjoyed a state of comparative tranquillity for twenty-five years, during which time roads were made in the Highlands, and various measures adopted to improve the condition of the clans.

In 1725 several Highlanders were admitted into the service of the crown and armed, and in 1729 the government considered it desirable that a number of

loyal Highlanders should be embodied, and constituted 1729 part of the regular domestic military force of the country, for duty in the mountain districts, for which they appeared better qualified than the soldiers from the Lowlands. Six independent companies were accordingly formed soon afterwards; three of them consisted of one captain, two lieutenants, one ensign, and one hundred non-commissioned officers and soldiers each, and were commanded by Lord Lovat, Sir Duncan Campbell of Lochnell, and Colonel Grant of Ballindalloch; the other three companies consisted of one captain-lieutenant, one lieutenant, one ensign, and seventy men each, and were commanded by Alexander Campbell of Finab, John Campbell of Carrick, and George Munro of Culcairn.

These six companies were employed in enforcing 1730 the disarming act, in overawing the disaffected, in preventing reprisals and plunder between rival clans, and the depredations of the mountaineers on their more peaceable neighbours of the plains. The officers were taken from the clans of Campbell, Grant, Munroe, &c., &c., which had embraced the principles of the revolution of 1688, but many of the men were from the clan of Athole, and those of Perthshire, which adhered to the opposite interest. The men were generally the sons of landholders, and persons in good circumstances; they continued to wear the dress of the country, which consisted so much of black, blue, and green tartan, that they presented a very sombre appearance, which procured them the appellation of "FREICUDAN DU," or "BLACK WATCH," in contradistinction to the regular troops, who wore scarlet coats, waistcoats, and breeches, and were called "Seidaran Dearag," or "Red Soldiers."

The BLACK WATCH occupied extensive quarters; Lord Lovat and the Frasers were stationed at Fort

1730 Augustus, and the neighbouring parts of Inverness-shire; Captain-Lieutenant Munro of Culcairn, and the Munroes, in Ross and Sutherland; Ballindalloch and the Grants, in Strathspey and Badenoch; Athole and Breadalbane being border counties of doubtful loyalty, the two companies of Lochnell and Carrick were stationed there; the company of Campbell of Finab, who was then abroad, was quartered in Lochaber and the northern parts of Argyleshire, among the Camerons and Stewarts of Appin. Thus distributed over an extensive tract of country, the BLACK WATCH performed the duties allotted them to the satisfaction of the government during a period of nine years, when a change took place in the constitution of the corps.

1739 The qualities of Highland soldiers, often proved in the battle-fields of Europe, were well known and appreciated, and on the breaking out of the war with Spain in 1739, King George II. resolved to incorporate the six companies of the BLACK WATCH into a regiment, to be augmented to ten companies, that he might possess the advantage of a Highland corps in the approaching contest: the following warrant, dated the 25th of October 1739, was accordingly issued, addressed to Colonel JOHN EARL OF CRAWFORD AND LINDSAY:—

“GEORGE R. WHEREAS we have thought fit that a  
“regiment of foot be forthwith formed under your command,  
“and consist of ten companies, each to contain one captain,  
“one lieutenant, one ensign, three serjeants, three corporals,  
“two drummers, and one hundred effective private men;  
“which said regiment shall be partly formed out of six independent  
“companies of foot in the Highlands of North  
“Britain, three of which are now commanded by captains, and  
“three by captain-lieutenants. Our will and pleasure therefore  
“is, that one serjeant, one corporal, and fifty private men, be

“forthwith taken out of the three companies commanded by 1739  
 “captains, and ten men from each of the three companies  
 “commanded by captain-lieutenants, making one hundred  
 “and eighty men, who are to be equally distributed into the  
 “four companies hereby ordered to be raised, and the three  
 “serjeants and three corporals drafted as aforesaid, to be  
 “placed to such of the four companies as you shall judge  
 “proper, and the remainder of the non-commissioned officers  
 “and private men, wanting to complete them to the above  
 “number, to be raised in the Highlands with all possible  
 “speed; the men to be natives of that country, and none  
 “other to be taken.

“The regiment shall commence and take place according  
 “to the establishment thereof. And of these our orders and  
 “commands, you, and the said three captains and three cap-  
 “tain-lieutenants commanding at present the six independent  
 “Highland companies, and all others concerned, are to take  
 “notice, and yield obedience thereto accordingly.

“Given, &c., (Signed) WM. YONGE.”

The following officers received commissions in the  
 regiment:—

*Colonel*, JOHN EARL OF CRAWFORD.

*Lieut.-Colonel*, SIR ROBERT MUNRO OF FOWLIS, BART.

*Major*, GEORGE GRANT (brother of the Laird of Grant).

*Captains.*

George Munro of Culcain.

Dougal Campbell of Craignish.

John Campbell of Carrick.

Colin Campbell, junior, of Monzie.

Sir Jas. Colquhoun of Luss, Bt.

Colin Campbell of Ballimore.

John Munro.

*Captain-Lieutenant.*

Duncan Macfarlane.

*Lieutenants.*

Paul Macpherson.

Lewis Grant of Aucter-Clair.

Jno. Maclean of Kingarloch.

John Mackenzie.

Alexander Macdonald.

Malcomb Fraser (son of Culduthil).

George Ramsay.

Fras. Grant (son of the Laird of

John Macneil.

Grant).

1739

*Ensigns.*

Dougal Campbell.	Dougal Stewart.
John Menzies of Camrie.	Edward Carrick.
Gilbert Stewart of Kincraigie.	Gordon Graham of Draines.
Archibald Macnab (son of the	Colin Campbell.
Laird of Macnab).	James Campbell of Grenfallach.
Dougal Stewart.	

*Chaplain, Honorable Gideon Murray.**Surgeon, George Munro. Adjutant, Gilbert Stewart.**Quarter-master, John Forbes.*

1740 Some progress had been made in recruiting, and the several companies were assembled in May, 1740, in a field between Taybridge and Aberfeldy, in the county of Perth, and there constituted a regiment, under the title of the "Highland Regiment;" but the corps retained, for some years, the country name of the BLACK WATCH.

The uniform was a *scarlet jacket and waistcoat*, with buff facings and white lace; *tartan plaid* of twelve yards, plaited round the middle of the body, the upper part being fixed on the left shoulder, ready to be thrown loose, and wrapped over both shoulders and firelock in rainy weather; it served the purpose of a blanket in the night; it was worn on all occasions when the men appeared in full dress, and was kept tight to the body by a belt; when not on duty, a little *kilt*, or *philibeg*, was worn; a *blue bonnet*, with a border of white, red, and green, arranged in small squares, to resemble, as is said, the fess cheque in the arms of the Stuart family, and a tuft of feathers, or sometimes, from economy or necessity, a tuft of black bear skin was afterwards added; *tartan hose*, and shoes with buckles. The arms were a musket, bayonet, and large basket-hilted broadsword; these were furnished by the government, and such men as chose, were permitted to carry a dirk, pair of pistols, and a target, after the fashion of the country. The

sword-belt was black, and the cartouch-box was 1740 carried in front, supported by a belt round the waist.

The regiment remained on the banks of the Tay and Lyon about fifteen months; it assembled regularly for exercise at Taybridge, and the point of Lyon, about a mile below Taymouth Castle, under Lieut.-Colonel Sir Robert Munro, an officer of experience and judgment.

On the 25th of December Colonel the Earl of Crawford was removed to the Second, or Scots, Troop of Horse Grenadier Guards, and was succeeded in the colonelcy of the regiment by Brigadier-General Lord Sempill.

In the winter of 1741 the regiment resumed the 1741 duties formerly performed by the BLACK WATCH in the Highlands, in which it was employed during the year 1742, when King George II. sent an army to 1742 Flanders, to support the house of Austria against the Elector of Bavaria and the King of France.

The Highland Regiment having been selected to 1743 reinforce the army in Flanders, assembled at Perth in March 1743, and commenced its march for the south of England. The men expected they should not be required to quit their own country, and as their destination had not been officially communicated to them, a belief was entertained that they were only proceeding to London to be reviewed by the King\*. Towards the end of April they arrived in the vicinity of the metropolis, and were reviewed on the 14th of May, on Finchley common, by General Wade, who had become well acquainted with many of the officers, and with the character of the corps, during the time he was commander-in-chief in Scotland, and while superintending the construction

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\* Two soldiers of the regiment were taken to court, and they performed the broad-sword and Lochaber-axe exercise in the presence of King George II. at St. James's Palace.

1743 of roads in the Highlands. Many thousands of spectators were present at the review, and the appearance and discipline of the corps were much admired.

After the review the regiment was ordered to Gravesend to embark, when a report was circulated among the men, that they were designed for the West Indies, a country which was, at that time, accounted the grave of Europeans, and upwards of a hundred soldiers, who had enlisted in the expectation of not being required to quit their own country, commenced their journey back to Scotland. They were overtaken, on the 22nd May, at Oundle, in Northamptonshire, by a squadron of Wade's Horse (now Third Dragoon Guards), which was joined by a squadron of Churchill's Dragoons (now Tenth Hussars). The Highlanders were disposed to submit on condition of receiving a free pardon; at the same time they took possession of a strong post in Lady-wood, and having their arms and ammunition, they expressed their determination to resist, rather than submit on any other terms. The judicious conduct on the part of the Officer commanding the cavalry detachments, induced the Highlanders to re-consider the steps they had taken, and being convinced of their error, they surrendered. They were conducted back to the Tower of London, where three of their number were tried and shot, and the remainder were drafted to different Colonies abroad.

This event, occasioned exclusively by misapprehension on the part of certain of the Highlanders, did not, however, prevent the embarkation of the regiment for Flanders. It embarked from Gravesend, and landed at Ostend, from whence it marched to Brussels, where it arrived on the 1st of June, and halted at that city ten days. It afterwards advanced up the country by Tirlemont, Liege, and Maestricht, and joined the allied army commanded by the British



Monarch in person, at Hanau, a few days after the 1743 King had gained a victory over the French at Dettin-gen, where an engagement took place on the 16th June, on which day the regiment arrived at Tongres.

The Highlanders remained encamped on the banks of the Kinzig, near Hanau, until the 4th of August, when they advanced towards the Rhine, and having passed that river above Mentz on the 27th, were employed in operations with the army in West Germany until the middle of October, when they commenced their march back to Flanders. They arrived at Brussels on the 16th of November, and afterwards went into quarters among the Flemish peasantry, where they were conspicuous for their excellent conduct, which occasioned them to be highly esteemed among the inhabitants of the country. The Elector-Palatine desired his envoy in London to thank the King of Great Britain for the excellent behaviour of the soldiers of the regiment while in his territories, "and for whose sake," he added, "I will always pay a respect and regard to a Scotsman in future\*."

Quitting its winter quarters, the regiment again 1744 took the field in the spring of 1744, and served the campaign of that year under Field-Marshal Wade; the army was encamped near Brussels, and afterwards behind the Scheldt; but the enemy had so great a superiority of numbers, that no offensive movement was undertaken until a body of French troops was detached to oppose Prince Charles of Lorraine in Alsace, when the allies crossed the river. No engagement ensued, and after penetrating the French territory as far as Lisle, the allied army returned to Flanders for winter quarters. The conduct of the Highlanders in cantonments was again a subject of great admiration, and private letters from Flanders made repeated

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\* DODDRIDGE'S *Life of Colonel Gardiner*.

1744 mention of the estimation in which they were held by the inhabitants for their quiet, kind, domestic, and orderly behaviour.

1745 On the 25th of April, 1745, Lord Sempill was removed to the Twenty-fifth Foot, and the colonelcy of the Highlanders was conferred on Lord John Murray, son of the Duke of Athole.

Early in the spring of this year a powerful French army appeared in the Netherlands under Marshal Count de Saxe, and besieged the fortress of Tournay, which was defended by eight thousand Dutch troops under the veteran Baron Dorth.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland assumed the command of the allied army, and on reviewing the Highland Regiment, he highly commended its appearance and discipline, and expressed his approbation of its conduct in quarters. His Royal Highness advanced to attack the French army before Tournay, and on the 29th April the enemy's outposts in front of *Fontenoy* were driven in. The Highlanders formed part of the advance-guard on this occasion, and they were ordered to the village of Veson, from whence they advanced, and evinced great gallantry in action with the French sharp-shooters on the plain, while the Duke of Cumberland and the Austrian and Dutch commanders reconnoitred the enemy's position\*. The regiment was afterwards

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\* "A galloping of aides-de-camp took place along the line of the British, and soon the BLACK WATCH was ordered to be in readiness to aid in clearing the plain of the concealed infantry, and in covering a reconnoitring party, which was to consist of the Duke of Cumberland, accompanied by the Chiefs of the army. By this movement, it was intended that the *Highland Regiment* should have its loyalty put to the test by being brought in contact with the enemy immediately under his own eye. The *Highlanders* received this order with joyful animation, and they were determined to show what, as soldiers, they were able and willing to perform!"—*PICKEN'S Black Watch*.

posted along the outward edge of the village, towards 1745 the enemy, and one company, commanded by Captain Grant, advanced with a party of Austrian hussars and skirmished with the French light troops, in which service the Highlanders displayed their native ardour and intrepidity, and several advantages were gained over the French hussars\*.

While the regiment was stationed in Veson, a Highlander, posted in front, observed a French sharp-shooter firing at him, when he placed his bonnet on a stick and fixed it behind a bush; the sharp-shooter saw the bonnet, and, supposing the Highlander there, continued to fire; and the wily Scot approached his adversary cautiously to a spot which afforded a sure aim, and succeeded in bringing the Frenchman down†.

The regiment continued at its post until the morning of the 30th of April, when the army advanced to attack the enemy's position‡. "The Guards and Highlanders began the battle, and attacked a body of French near Veson, in the vicinity of which place the Dauphin was posted. Though the enemy was intrenched breast high, the Guards with bayonets, and the Highlanders with sword, pistol, and dirk, forced them out, killing a considerable number§."

At a further distance in front of Veson was a fort mounted with cannon, and sufficiently large to contain six hundred men.

Against this fort the Highlanders advanced, with other troops under Brigadier-General Ingoldsby; but

\* Begg's *Military History of Europe from 1738 to 1739*.

† *Memoirs of John Earl of Crawford*.

‡ "With joy the BLACK WATCH now got the word to 'fire,' which they did with a steadiness that had a sure effect; and having smelt gunpowder for the first time, volley after volley passed between them and the enemy with a rapidity that seemed but to add to the eager excitement of the attack!"—PICKEN's *Black Watch*.

§ *History of the War*.

1745 the attack did not take place, in consequence of some misapprehension of orders on the part of the brigadier-general.

Meanwhile the allied army had deployed in front of the enemy; the British infantry passed between Fontenoy and the wood of Barri, and made a gallant attack on the French lines; and the Dutch advanced against Fontenoy, but failed in their attempt to carry that village, when the Highlanders were removed from Brigadier-General Ingoldsby's command, and ordered to support the Dutch in a second attempt to carry the village, in which service the regiment was conspicuous for its intrepid bearing. The regiment supported one of the Holland brigades in the attack of a post occupied by French guards: and the Highlanders became so impatient of the slow, irresolute conduct of the Dutch, that they rushed forward and carried the post sword in hand; sustaining comparatively no loss, to that experienced by the Dutch in their slow approaches.

About mid-day a second attack was made on the enemy's positions, when the Dutch again failed, and Lieutenant-Colonel SIR ROBERT MUNRO was ordered, with the Highlanders, to sustain the British troops, who were severely engaged with superior numbers. The Lieutenant-colonel brought them into action in gallant style. "He had obtained leave of the Duke of Cumberland to allow them to fight in their own way. Sir Robert, according to the usage of his countrymen, ordered the whole regiment to clap to the ground, on receiving the French fire, and instantly after its discharge, they sprang up, and coming close to the enemy, poured in their shot upon them to the certain destruction of multitudes, and drove them precipitately through their own lines; then retreating drew up again, and attacked

“ them a second time after the same manner. These 1745  
“ attacks they repeated several times on the same day,  
“ to the surprise of the whole army. Sir Robert was  
“ everywhere with his regiment, notwithstanding his  
“ great corpulency, and when in the trenches, he was  
“ hauled out by the legs and arms by his own men;  
“ and it is observed, that when he commanded the  
“ whole regiment to clap to the ground, he, himself,  
“ alone, stood upright, with the colours behind him,  
“ receiving the fire of the enemy\*.”

The Duke of Cumberland witnessed the gallant conduct of the regiment; and observed a Highlander, who had killed nine men, making a stroke with his broad-sword at the tenth, when his arm was shot off by a cannon ball; his Royal Highness applauded the Highlander's conduct, and promised him a reward of a value equal to the arm†.

While the regiment was thus evincing its prowess, the French commander made a determined attack with an immense body of fresh troops, and drove back the British line; and the Highlanders were borne down by the retreating body. The Duke of Cumberland finding that, owing to the failure of the Dutch on Fontenoy, and the misapprehension of orders on the part of Brigadier-General Ingoldsby, the attack could not be renewed with any prospect of success, ordered a retreat; and the Highlanders took part in covering the retrograde movement, in which they evinced the same native intrepidity which they had displayed during the action, repeatedly facing about and checking the pursuit by their fire. When they approached Veson, they lined the hedges in front of that village, until the other troops had passed, and then continued the retreat.

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\* DODDRIDGE's *Life of Colonel Gardiner*.

† Pamphlet entitled *Conduct of the Officers at Fontenoy considered*.

1745 The Earl of Crawford thanked the troops which covered the retreat under his orders, telling them, "they had acquired as much honour in covering so great a retreat, as if they had gained the battle\*."

The army continued its retrograde movement to Aeth, and the French had sustained too severe a loss to press the troops in the retreat.

At the battle of Fontenoy the HIGHLAND REGIMENT was first brought into contact with the enemies of its country, and it gave presage of that heroic gallantry for which it has since been distinguished in every quarter of the globe. Doctor Doddridge states "the gallantry of Sir Robert Munro and his regiment was the theme of admiration through all Britain†." The conduct of the regiment was also commended in the *London Gazette*. Its loss was Captain John Campbell of Carrick, Ensign Lachlane Campbell of Craignish, and thirty rank and file killed; Captain Richard Campbell of Finab, Ensigns Ronald Campbell, and James Campbell of Glenfalloch, two serjeants and eighty-six rank and file wounded; one serjeant and twelve rank and file missing‡.

The regiment was subsequently encamped on the plain of Lessines, from whence it removed to Grammont§, and towards the end of June it marched into position near Brussels; in the mean time the enemy was enabled, by his superior numbers, to capture several fortified towns. In September the regiment was detached, with other troops under Major-General

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\* ROLT'S *Life of the Earl of Crawford*.

† *Life of Colonel Gardiner*.

‡ *London Gazette*.

§ While the regiment was encamped at Grammont, its lieutenant-colonel, Sir Robert Munro, Bart., was promoted to the colonelcy of the Thirty-seventh regiment, in the Record of which corps a statement of his services will be given. He was killed at the battle of Falkirk in January, 1746.

Hawley, to cover the march of a garrison of Austrians 1745 to Mons, and the return of a party from thence, also to enable a body of British troops in Aeth to rejoin the army; this service was performed, and the detachment returned to the lines near Brussels: while engaged on this duty, the Highlanders were conspicuous for their ability to endure fatigue and privation; it was observed, that in the last day's march of above thirty miles, on a deep sandy road, when the Dutch troops were overpowered with heat and fatigue, not one man of the Highlanders was left behind\*.

While the regiment was on service in Flanders, a rebellion broke out in Scotland, where Charles Edward, eldest son of the Pretender, appeared, and aroused the clans to arms. This adventurer was guided by desperate and designing men, urged on by the politics of France, and being sanguine in his disposition, he readily listened to every representation flattering to his views, which were to overturn the constitution of a brave and free people. Scotland being nearly denuded of troops to augment the army in Flanders, the first movements of the young Pretender appeared to hold out a prospect of success, until the people aroused themselves and stood forward in defence of the fixed rights of their monarch, and of their own liberties.

The Highlanders were ordered to return to England on this occasion. The strength of the regiment had, in the mean time, been augmented by three additional companies raised in the Highlands, under Captains the Laird of Mackintosh, Sir Patrick Murray of Octertyre, and Campbell of Inveraw; the subalterns were James Farquharson the younger of

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\* *Military History of Europe.*

1745 Invercauld, John Campbell the younger of Glenlyon\*, Dougal Campbell, Allan Grant, son of Glenmariston, John Campbell, son of Glenfalloch, and Allan Campbell, son of Barcaldine. These companies were raised in different parts of the Highlands, and owing to the interest of Sir Patrick Murray in the Athole family, and that of the other gentlemen of Perthshire, Invercauld, Glenlyon, and Glenfalloch, a greater portion of the men were from the districts of Athole, Breadalbane, and Braemar, than was found in the original composition of the regiment; but they were stout Highlanders, and of good character.

The augmentation companies were employed in Scotland during the rebellion, and one of them was at the battle of *Preston-Pans*, on the 21st of September, when the young Pretender gained a victory over a detachment of the King's troops, and all the officers of the company,—viz., Captain Sir Patrick Murray, Lieutenant Farquharson, and Ensign Allan Campbell, with the whole of the men, were either killed or taken prisoners.

On the fourth of November the regiment arrived in the river Thames from Flanders, and was afterwards stationed on the coast of Kent, to repel a threatened invasion by the French.

1746 The rebellion having been suppressed by the decisive battle of Culloden on the 16th of April, 1746, and the French monarch not venturing to hazard an expedition against the British coast, the Highlanders became disposable for service, and they were selected

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\* He was the father of John Campbell, the soldier of the Highland Watch, who, with Gregor McGregor, was presented to King George II., at St. James's; this soldier was promoted to an ensigncy for his conduct at the battle of Fontenoy, and was afterwards killed at Ticonderoga, on Lake Champlain, in 1758.



to form part of an expedition under Lieutenant-1746 General the Honorable James St. Clair, against the French possessions in North America. They marched to Portsmouth, where a detachment joined from the three companies in Scotland, which augmented the strength to eleven hundred men, and in June they embarked with the expedition against Quebec; but the fleet under Rear-Admiral Lestock was so long delayed by contrary winds, that the season became too far advanced, and the enterprise was abandoned. An expedition to the French coast was afterwards resolved upon, on the supposition that the port of *L'Orient*, the repository of all the stores and ships belonging to the French East India Company, might be captured by surprise, or at least the invasion of Brittany would create a diversion in favour of the Austrians in Provence.

The expedition sailed from Plymouth on the 14th of September, and on the 20th preparations were made to land on the coast ten miles from port *L'Orient*, when two thousand French troops appeared to oppose the descent; but as the grenadiers and Highlanders approached the shore in boats, the enemy fled. The army advanced to the town; the French authorities proposed to surrender, but they claimed too favourable conditions, which were rejected, and the siege was commenced, during the progress of which the Highlanders took part in repulsing a sortie of the garrison. The expedition was, however, found of insufficient force for the capture of the town; the siege was raised, and the troops returned on board the fleet.

Another landing on the French coast was carried into effect on the 2nd of October, on the peninsula of *Quiberon*, when Lieutenant-Colonel Munro took possession of the isthmus with one hundred and fifty Highlanders, and Lieutenant-General St. Clair ad-

1746 vanced with the remainder of the regiment, and the first battalion of the Royals, and took a fort with eighteen guns, which the French abandoned. The isthmus was fortified, and the troops quartered in the villages and farm-houses, until the forts and guns in the peninsula, with those in the isles of Houat and Hedic, were destroyed, when they re-embarked and quitted the coast.

The Highlanders sailed to Cork, and marched into that town on the 4th of November, with their colonel, Lord John Murray, at their head, and they afterwards proceeded to Limerick.

In the mean time the war had been continued on the Continent, and the French having reduced the Austrian provinces, penetrated Dutch Flanders.

1747 The Highlanders were again selected for foreign service; they marched to Cork in February 1747, embarked for the Downs, where they were joined by a detachment from the three companies in Scotland, and sailing to Holland, landed in the province of Zealand. Meanwhile the French had captured Sluys and Sas-van-Ghent, and besieged *Hulst*, and the Highlanders, with the first battalion of the Royals, and the Twenty-eighth regiment, were ordered to the relief of that fortress, under the command of Major-General Fuller. They landed at Stapledyke on the 1st of May, and encamped at a distance from the place, to support the garrison of an out-work called *Fort Sandberg*. On the 3rd of May the French attacked the fort by storm; when the Dutch made a determined resistance, and on the arrival of the British troops, the enemy was driven back. The attack was renewed on the 5th of May, and the Royals were engaged in a desperate conflict of musketry during the night, in which they lost between three and four hundred men. About five o'clock on the following

morning, the Highlanders relieved the Royals; and 1747 the French being dismayed at the sanguinary tenacity of the defence, retreated. The regiment had five men killed on this occasion.

Resuming the fire of their batteries, the French soon rendered Fort Sandberg untenable, when the Dutch governor, General La Roque, resolved to vacate the fort, and surrender the town of Hulst. Colonel Lord John Murray, commanding the British troops in the absence of Major-General Fuller, retreated to *Welsharden*, where the troops were embarked in small vessels. Three hundred Highlanders, who were the last to embark, were attacked by a body of French troops of very superior numbers, whom they repulsed with great gallantry, killing many of their opponents; the regiment afterwards sailed to South Beveland, went into cantonments on the island, and was stationed there several months.

When the French attacked Bergen-op-Zoom, Colonel Lord John Murray, Captain Fraser of Culduthil, Captain Campbell of Craignish, and several other officers, obtained permission to serve in the defence of that fortress.

The regiment quitted South Beveland early in the 1748 spring of 1748, and joined the allied army near Ruremonde.

Meanwhile the three companies in Scotland had been employed in duties arising out of the suppression of the rebellion, and of the measures found necessary on that occasion; in the spring of this year they marched to Preston-Pans, for the purpose of embarking to join the regiment in Holland; but preliminary articles for a treaty of peace having been agreed upon, the order was countermanded, and they were afterwards reduced.

During the winter the Highland regiment was

1749 withdrawn from the Netherlands; it arrived in England in December, and it proceeded to Ireland in 1749, where it remained during the following seven years.

1751 By the Royal Warrant, dated 1st of July, 1751, for regulating the colours, clothing, &c., of the several Regiments, the dress of the FORTY-SECOND, or the Highland, Regiment was directed to be scarlet, lined and faced with buff; the national distinctions of bonnet, tartan-plaid, and hose, kilt or philibeg, were not defined; the grenadiers to wear bear-skin fur caps, with the King's cypher and crown, on a red ground, in the turn-up, or flap. The first, or King's, colour, was the great union: the second, or regimental, colour, was of buff silk, with the union in the upper canton, and in the centre the number of the regiment, in gold Roman characters, within a wreath of roses and thistles on the same stalk\*.

1755 While the regiment was reposing in quarters in Ireland, the British colonies in America were extending themselves. The Indian trade drew many persons into the interior, where they found well-watered plains, a delightful climate, and a fruitful soil, and a company of merchants and planters obtained a charter for a tract of land beyond the Allegany Mountains and near the river Ohio. The French laid claim to this part of the country, drove away the settlers, and built a fort called Du Quesne, to command the entrance into the

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\* In the Royal Warrant of the 1st July, 1751, Numerical Titles, according to the dates of formation, are given to the Fortieth Regiment, which consisted of Independent Companies raised for service in America in 1717; to the Forty-first Regiment, which was formed from Invalids in 1718; and to the FORTY-SECOND or Highland Regiment, which (as stated in the historical record) had been regimented in 1739.

General Oglethorpe's Regiment, which had been raised for Colonial service in North America in 1737, was disbanded in 1749.

country on the Ohio and Mississippi. This act of 1755 aggression, with some disputes respecting Nova Scotia, produced another war, which occasioned the services of the regiment to be transferred from Ireland to North America. Hostilities commenced in 1755, the establishment of the regiment was immediately augmented, recruiting parties were sent to Scotland, and in the spring of 1756 it embarked for New York, 1756 where it arrived in June, under Lieutenant-Colonel Grant, with Major Duncan Campbell of Inveraw, as second in command.

From New York the FORTY-SECOND Highlanders proceeded to the city of Albany, on the west bank of Hudson river, where they were held in readiness to repel any attempts of the French on the British territory, from Lake Champlain; they were, however, not called into active service, the French limiting their efforts to the erection of the fort of Ticonderoga, on the banks of the lake. In the autumn upwards of six hundred recruits, all Highlanders, joined the regiment at Albany;—the high reputation of the corps occasioning many aspirants for the honour of serving under its colours, the recruiting parties had great success.

During the winter, and in the spring of 1757, 1757 the regiment was taught the light infantry exercise, particularly in bush-fighting and the service of sharp-shooters, and the Highlanders proved excellent marksmen.

In this year an expedition was fitted out against the French island of *Cape Breton*, situate in the gulf of St. Lawrence, and the regiment was withdrawn from Albany to share in the enterprise. It embarked from New York with other troops under Colonel the Earl of Loudoun, and sailed to Halifax, where it arrived in the month of June; in July addi-

1757 tional forces arrived from Great Britain and Ireland, and the Seventeenth, FORTY-SECOND, Forty-sixth, and second battalion of the Sixtieth, were formed in brigade under Major-General James Abercromby. The fleet sailed from Halifax in the beginning of August; but it was ascertained that the French had received a strong reinforcement, and that their fleet at Louisburg, the capital of Cape Breton, was much stronger than the British naval force with the expedition; the enterprise was in consequence deferred until the succeeding year. The FORTY-SECOND Highlanders returned to New York, from whence they afterwards proceeded up Hudson river to Albany.

Three companies were added to the regiment, which was thus augmented to thirteen hundred men, all Highlanders, no others being recruited for the corps. The augmentation companies were commanded by Captains James Murray, son of Lord George Murray, James Stewart of Urrard, and Thomas Stirling, son of Sir Henry Stirling of Ardoch.

1758 In the spring of 1758 Lieutenant-General (afterwards Lord) Amherst proceeded with the expedition against Cape Breton, and the FORTY-SECOND Highlanders were ordered to join a body of troops selected to attack the fort of *Ticonderoga*, under Major-General Abercromby. This force embarked on Lake George on the 5th of July, and landed on the following day near the extremity of the lake, from whence they marched, through a wild thickly-wooded country, in four columns, upon Ticonderoga, the guides mistaking the route through the trackless woods, and causing great confusion. One of the columns met with a body of French troops in the wood, when a skirmish ensued, in which the enemy was routed with the loss of three hundred killed, and one hundred and fifty prisoners. Brigadier-General Viscount Howe

(of the Fifty-fifth Regiment) was killed on this occasion, and his fall was universally regretted. On the 8th of July the British appeared before the fort, which was built on an eminence on a tongue of land projecting into Lake Champlain. It could only be approached on one side, which was covered by a line of fortifications eight feet high, defended by cannon, and the advance was rendered difficult by felled trees with the branches pointed and turned outwards, and the works were defended by between four and five thousand men.

Information was received of the approach of three thousand French to reinforce the garrison; some difficulty was experienced in bringing up the artillery, and the engineer reported that the works might be carried by storm; under these circumstances Major-General Abercromby resolved to hazard an attack without cannon. The assault was headed by the piquets, followed by the Grenadiers, and the Highlanders were in the reserve; but the troops were unable to force their way through the branches of the felled trees, and they were exposed to a severe fire of musketry and artillery. The Highlanders rushed forward from the reserve, cut their way through the branches of the trees with their broad-swords, and made a gallant effort to carry the breastwork by storm, climbing up one another's shoulders, and placing their feet in holes made in the face of the works with their swords and bayonets,—no ladders having been provided. The defenders were, however, very numerous, and well prepared, and it was found to be impossible to carry the works; Captain John Campbell and a few men succeeded in getting up; but they were speedily overpowered by superior numbers. After these gallant, but unavailing, efforts had been continued several hours, and a serious loss had

1758 been sustained in killed and wounded, Major-General Abercromby gave orders for a retreat, but the soldiers had become so exasperated by the repulse, and the loss of so many of their comrades, that they retired with reluctance, and the order was repeated three times before the Highlanders withdrew from so unequal a contest. The British returned to their camp on the south of Lake George, and the French did not venture to pursue.

The regiment sustained a very serious loss on this desperate enterprise;—viz., Major Duncan Campbell, Captain John Campbell, Lieutenants George Farquharson, Hugh Mc Pherson, William Baillie, and John Sutherland, Ensigns Patrick Stewart of Banskied, and George Rattray, nine serjeants, and two hundred and ninety-seven rank and file killed; Captains Gordon Graham, Thomas Graham of Duchray, John Campbell of Stracher, James Stewart of Urrard, James Murray (afterwards General), Lieutenants James Grant, Robert Gray, John Campbell, William Grant, John Graham, brother of Duchray, Alexander Campbell, Alexander Mackintosh, Archibald Campbell, David Miller, and Patrick Balneaves, Ensigns John Smith and Peter Grant, ten serjeants, and three hundred and six rank and file wounded; making a total of six hundred and forty-seven killed and wounded.

The regiment remained encamped near the shores of Lake George for some time, and the army was joined by a division of the troops which had taken part in the capture of Louisburg.

In the mean time the number of gallant young Highlanders, proud of the high reputation of their national corps, and anxious to enrol themselves under its banners, as proved by the facility with which the additional companies had been raised, induced His



Majesty to issue letters of service for adding a *second* 1758 *battalion* to the regiment.

The King appreciated the meritorious conduct of the regiment on all occasions, and previously to the arrival of the news of its extraordinary gallantry at Ticonderoga, His Majesty issued the following warrant conferring upon it the title of the "ROYAL HIGHLAND REGIMENT," which proved an additional inducement for young men to join its ranks.

"GEORGE R.

"WE being desirous to distinguish Our FORTY-SECOND Regiment of Foot, with some mark of Our Royal favour, Our Will and Pleasure therefore is, and we do hereby direct, that from henceforth Our said regiment be called, and distinguished by the title and name of Our 'FORTY-SECOND, or ROYAL HIGHLAND REGIMENT OF FOOT,' in all commissions, orders, and writings, that shall hereafter be made out, or issued for and concerning the said regiment.

"GIVEN at Our Court at Kensington this 22nd day of July 1758, in the thirty-second year of Our reign.

"By His Majesty's command,  
(Signed) BARRINGTON."

The second battalion was formed of the three additional companies raised in 1757, and of seven companies of one hundred and twenty men each, embodied in the summer of 1758. The first three companies embarked for North America to join the first battalion, as soon as its severe loss at Ticonderoga was known. The other seven companies were assembled at Perth in October, and formed a battalion of eight hundred and forty men, all Highlanders, with

1758 very few exceptions. These men were brought into a state of discipline and efficiency so speedily, that in four months from the date of the order to raise the second battalion, it was reported fit for active service, and ordered to proceed abroad.

1759 An attack on the French West India Islands having been resolved upon, an expedition was fitted out for that purpose under Major-General Hopson, and sailed from England in the autumn. The second battalion of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS was selected for this service, and two hundred men embarked at Greenock for the West Indies; but the remainder were detained for want of transport. This detachment joined the expedition at Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes, in the beginning of the following year.

From Barbadoes the expedition sailed on the 13th of January, 1759, against the island of *Martinique*, entered Port Royal harbour on the 15th, and a battery having been silenced by the men-of-war, a landing was effected without opposition, the troops taking post on the high ground above Fort Negro. On the 17th a forward movement was made, and the grenadiers engaged a body of the enemy on a rising-ground near a wood.

The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS took part in a sharp skirmish on this occasion, and "behaved with the greatest bravery\*;" they proved themselves expert in the use of their arms and good marksmen. The enemy had, however, ten thousand men under arms, and the British invading force did not exceed half that number; the expedition was therefore deemed of insufficient strength for the reduction of the island, and the troops re-embarked. The regiment had eight

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\* BEATSON'S *Naval and Military Memoirs*.

rank and file killed; Lieutenant Leslie, two serjeants, 1759 and twenty-two rank and file wounded.

An attack on *Guadaloupe* was next resolved upon; the fleet arrived before Basse-Terre, the capital, on the 23rd of January, and the forts and batteries having been destroyed by the men-of-war, the troops landed on the 24th, and took possession of the town and citadel without opposition; the governor retiring into the interior of the island, which he resolved to defend to the last extremity. The other companies of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS arrived from Scotland, and joined the armament at this place.

The governor, M. Dutriel, had induced the natives and planters to take arms and resist the English with all their power; and a French woman, Madame Ducharmey, armed her servants and negroes, and headed them in person in several rencounters. Her garrison was, however, attacked and overpowered by a detachment, but Madame Ducharmey escaped.

The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS had Lieutenant Mc Lean and several men wounded in this service.

A detachment of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS and Marines embarked on the 13th of February, to attack *Fort Louis*, on the Grand-Terre side of the island. The place was bombarded and cannonaded by the shipping, and during the contest the Highlanders and Marines moved towards the shore in boats; their progress being arrested by obstructions under water, they leaped into the stream up to the middle, and drove the French from their works with fixed bayonets, capturing the fort, and hoisting the British colours. "No troops could behave with more courage than the Highlanders and Marines did on this occasion\*."

The army sustained a serious loss from the effect

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\* BEATSON'S *Naval and Military Memoirs*.

1759 of the climate, and on the 27th of February Major-General Hopson died, when Major-General Barrington succeeded to the command. This officer resolved to carry the war into Cape-Terre and Grand-Terre at the same time. The troops embarked for this purpose early in March, leaving one regiment in garrison. Having established himself in Grand-Terre, the major-general detached a party of the Fourth, or King's Own, and FORTY-SECOND, under Colonel Crump, against *St. Anne* and *St. François*, and both these towns were captured with little loss. Ensign Campbell of the Highlanders was killed on this occasion. An attempt was afterwards made to surprise *Petit Burg*; but owing to the darkness of a tempestuous night, and the terror and ignorance of the negro guides, it failed.

The King's Own, and Highlanders, were subsequently detached under Brigadier-Generals Clavering and Crump, to a bay near Arnonville, where they landed without opposition, the French retreating to a fortified post behind the river *Le Corn*, which covered the country to Bay Mahaut, where provisions were landed from *St. Eustatia*. The river was only accessible at two narrow passes, which were defended by a redoubt, palisadoed entrenchments mounted with cannon, and a numerous force including all the militia of that part of the island. Against these formidable works the field-pieces opened a sharp fire, under the cover of which the King's Own and ROYAL HIGHLANDERS advanced with so much intrepidity, that the enemy was intimidated, and abandoned the first intrenchment after firing a few volleys. The Highlanders drew their swords, and rushing forward with their characteristic impetuosity, followed their adversaries into the redoubt, of which they took possession.

After this gallant exploit the King's Own and

Highlanders advanced upon Petit Burg; the French 1759 retreating before them, and setting fire to the sugar-canes, obliged the two regiments occasionally to quit the road, to avoid accidents to their ammunition. On arriving at the river *Lezard*, the enemy was found intrenched behind the ford; but the British procured two canoes, and a few men having passed the river in the night, the enemy was put to flight on the following morning.

Arriving at *Petit Burg*, the Highlanders encountered fortified lines and a redoubt filled with cannon, but when the British diverged to the right and left in order to gain the heights round the lines, the enemy fled.

The FORTY-SECOND furnished a detachment against *Bay Mahaut*, which took part in the capture of the town and batteries at that place. The regiment was also engaged in driving the French from the strong post of *St. Maries*, where many guns were captured: and it subsequently penetrated the rich and beautiful district of Capesterre, and eight hundred and seventy negroes surrendered during the first day's march.

The inhabitants had become convinced of the superior bravery and discipline of the British troops, and the governor was unable to induce them to make further resistance. The island was surrendered in May; and the conduct of the troops which had achieved this conquest, was appreciated by their sovereign and country. This service proved a severe training to the Highlanders who, a few months before, had been herding cattle and sheep on their native hills: they had endured intolerable heat, continual fatigue, the air of an unaccustomed climate, and the toil of climbing lofty mountains and steep precipices, and proved themselves valuable soldiers in action. Their loss was Ensign Mc Lean, killed; Lieutenants

1759 Mc Lean, Leslie, St. Clair, and Robertson, wounded; Major Anstruther and Captain Arbuthnot died of fever, and one hundred and six soldiers killed, wounded, and died of disease.

Soon after the capture of Guadaloupe, the second battalion embarked for North America.

The first battalion had passed the winter in quarters on Long Island; early in the spring it proceeded up the Hudson river to Albany, and in May it joined the army at Fort Edward, to take part in a second attack on Ticonderoga: while Major-General Wolfe proceeded against Quebec, and two divisions assailed Canada at Niagara and the shores of Lake Erie. The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS were detached in front, with the light infantry, under Colonel GRANT of the FORTY-SECOND, and afterwards formed the advance-guard in the march to the banks of Lake George, where the army halted a month to procure boats, &c.

Meanwhile the second battalion had arrived at New York from Guadaloupe, and it was ordered up the country to Oswego, on the shores of Lake Ontario.

On the 21st of July the army embarked in boats on Lake George, the soldiers using their blankets for sails, and on the following day a landing was effected at the second Narrows, from whence they advanced towards *Ticonderoga*, driving the French out-post from the saw-mills. The siege was commenced; and the French commander, M. Bourlemaque, despairing of being able to make effectual resistance, blew up the fort and withdrew to the fort at *Crown Point*, which he afterwards abandoned and retired down the lake to Isle aux Noix. The British proceeded to Crown Point, and the second battalion of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS was ordered to join the army from Oswego; but the enemy had a naval force on the lake, and

military operations were suspended until a brigantine 1759 mounting eighteen guns and two swivels, and a sloop mounting sixteen guns, were built, when the army again embarked, and continued its progress along the lake on the 11th of October. On the following morning, the boats containing part of the FORTY-SECOND regiment fell in with a division of the French naval force, and one boat, containing an officer and twenty men, was captured by the enemy. The progress of the expedition was stopped by severe frosts; and the season proving too late for military operations, the army returned to Crown Point and Ticonderoga.

A different line of operations was resolved upon 1760 for the campaign of 1760, and both the battalions of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS traversed the country of Oswego, where the army was assembled under General Amherst. On the 7th of August the Grenadiers, first battalion of the FORTY-SECOND, and two companies of Rangers, embarked on Lake Ontario, as the advance-guard of the army, under Colonel Haldimand, and navigating that immense expanse of water, took post at the head of the river St. Lawrence: they were followed by the army three days afterwards, and the whole proceeded down the river, capturing *Fort Levi* after a short siege. After this was accomplished, the army continued its progress down the river, experiencing much difficulty in the dangerous navigation of the rapids: on the 1st of September a corporal and three men of the FORTY-SECOND were drowned, and on the 4th sixty-four boats were sunk in the rapids, and eighty-four men of various corps lost their lives. The progress of the army was continued; the French were unable to make effectual opposition, and a landing was effected on the island of *Montreal* on the 6th of September. Other portions of the invading force co-operating, the city of Montreal was invested. The

1760 French Governor-General of Canada, the Marquis of Vaudreuil, finding himself surrounded by a superior force, without prospect of relief, surrendered Montreal, and with it all Canada, to the British arms; ten French battalions becoming prisoners of war. Thus was accomplished the conquest of Canada, the most important acquisition during the war, and the fine country thus acquired has since continued to form part of the possessions of the British crown.

1761 After the capture of Canada the regiment remained a short time in that country, until the inhabitants had taken the necessary oaths, and the government of the colony was established; it afterwards crossed the country to Albany, and in the summer of 1761 orders arrived from England for a body of troops to proceed from North America to the West Indies; the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS were particularly named as one of the corps;—the sobriety, abstemious habits, great activity, and capability of bearing the vicissitudes of climate, of the Highland soldiers, rendering them well qualified for the service contemplated. The regiment was accordingly removed to Staten Island in August; in October it embarked with other forces, under Major-General Honorable Robert Monckton, for Barbadoes, where they arrived in December.

1762 On the 5th of January 1762 the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS sailed from Carlisle Bay, Barbadoes, with the expedition against the French island of *Martinique*, and in the middle of that month they landed in Cas des Navieres bay, from whence they advanced, and took an active part in the operations, which were of a trying and difficult nature, the whole island possessing the character of a fortification. Some severe fighting took place, and the Highlanders distinguished themselves in the capture of Marne Tartossou. Three days afterwards the French descended from the diffi-



cult height of Marne Garnier, and attacked the British 1762 advance-posts; they were repulsed with loss and pursued towards their own lines. "The Highlanders "drew their swords, rushed forward like furies, and "being supported by the grenadiers under Colonel "Grant, and a party of Lord Rollo's brigade, the "hills were mounted, the batteries seized, and numbers of the enemy, unable to escape from the rapidity of the attack, were taken\*." The French troops of the line escaped into the town, and the militia fled and dispersed themselves over the island. The attack proved decisive, and the French Governor-General, M. Le Vassar de la Touche, surrendered the island early in February. The conduct of the troops engaged in this enterprise was commended in the strongest terms, in Major-General Honorable Robert Monckton's public despatch.

The regiment had Captain William Cockburn, Lieutenant David Barclay, one serjeant, and twelve rank and file killed; Major John Reid, Captains James Murray, and Thomas Stirling, Lieutenants Alexander Macintosh, David Milne, Patrick Balneaves, Alexander Turnbull, John Robertson, William Brown, and George Leslie, three serjeants, one drummer, and seventy-two rank and file wounded.

War having been declared against Spain, preparations were made for an attack on the valuable Spanish settlement of the *Havannah*, the capital of the island of Cuba, a strong and important place, which was accounted the key of the Spanish empire in South America, and the depôt in which the trade and navigation of the Spanish West Indies centered. The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS were selected to take part in this important enterprise under General the Earl of

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\* *Westminster Journal*.

1762 Albemarle, who arrived from England, with a body of troops, towards the end of May. Proceeding through the straits of Bahama in favourable weather, this dangerous navigation was completed without accident, and on the 7th of June a landing was effected on the island of Cuba; on the 9th the troops took up a position between Coximar and the Moro. The siege of the Moro fort, the key position of the extensive works which covered the town, was commenced, and in this service great hardship was endured. The soil was so thin, that it was barely sufficient to cover the troops in their approaches; a scarcity of water was experienced, and the artillery had to be dragged by the men several miles over a rocky country, under a burning sun; but these difficulties were overcome by the unanimity which existed between the land and sea forces. One battery was destroyed; but it was speedily replaced, and the sorties of the Spaniards were repulsed. For thirty-nine days the Moro fort held out against the besiegers, and on the fortieth it was captured by storm. A series of batteries was afterwards constructed against the works covering the town, and their fire commenced on the 11th of August, with such effect, that the guns of the garrison were silenced on the same day, and flags of truce were hung out from every part of the town and from the ships in the harbour, which were followed by the surrender of this valuable city, which the Spanish government had deemed impregnable. Nine Spanish men-of-war were delivered up to the British, two were found upon the stocks, and three sunk at the entrance of the harbour.

The loss sustained by the FORTY-SECOND Regiment was two drummers and six rank and file killed; four rank and file wounded: but the loss from the climate was more severe; it consisted of Major Mc Neil,

Captains Robert Menzies (brother of Sir John 1762 Menzies), and A. Mc Donald, Lieutenants Farquharson, Grant, Lapsley, Cunnison, Hill, and Blair, two drummers, and seventy-one rank and file.

The loss sustained by the Spaniards, by the conquest of the Havannah by the British, was estimated at three millions sterling. The prize-money received by the army amounted to—for the commander-in-chief, 122,697*l.*; second in command, 24,539*l.*; major-generals each, 6816*l.*; brigadier-generals, 1947*l.*; field-officers, 564*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*; captains, 124*l.* 4*s.* 7½*d.*; subalterns, 116*l.* 3*s.* 0¼*d.*; serjeants, 8*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*; corporals, 6*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*; soldiers, 4*l.* 1*s.* 8½*d.*

The capture of this valuable settlement was followed by a treaty of peace, when the strength of the army was reduced. The second battalion of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS transferred its men fit for service to the first battalion, and was afterwards taken off the establishment. The regiment, reduced to one battalion, proceeded from the Havannah to North America, and arrived at New York towards the end of October.

After the conclusion of the peace of Fontainbleau, 1763 the regiment was selected to form part of the force to be employed in the protection of the British North American colonies. It was stationed a short period at Albany; but the aggressions of the Indian tribes on the back settlements and traders, soon called it into active service. The warriors of several nations had united, and they made a furious inroad upon the frontiers of Maryland, Philadelphia, Virginia, and other places, attacking the posts, and committing great ravages. The FORTY-SECOND Highlanders were placed under the orders of Colonel Bouquet, and detached, with other troops, to the relief of *Fort Pitt*, and they arrived at *Bushy Run* about the end of July.

1763 Beyond this place was a narrow pass between hills, with a woody eminence at the extremity, which the colonel intended to pass in the night, but his advance-guard was suddenly attacked by a body of Indians in ambush, when the light company of the FORTY-SECOND was sent forward, and the warriors were driven from their concealment. The Indians rallied and resumed the attack, but were speedily driven from some heights. Crouds of fresh warriors, however, came forward, environing the detachment on every side, and keeping up a continual fire from behind trees and bushes; but they instantly fell back at every point at which the troops advanced against them, coming forward again as the troops withdrew, and avoiding to expose themselves. The colonel called in his posts, and made dispositions, as if about to commence a retreat; this stratagem had the desired effect; the Indians believing themselves secure of victory, rushed from behind their cover, and became fully exposed. They were instantly charged in front, and two companies having made a detour round a hill, attacked them in flank. They were thrown into confusion, routed, and pursued a considerable distance with great alacrity, but they did not venture to rally.

Resuming its march, the detachment arrived at Fort Pitt, with a convoy of provisions, without further molestation.

In the action at Bushy Run, the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS had Lieutenants John Graham, and James Mc Intosh, one serjeant, and twenty-six rank and file killed; Captain John Graham of Duchray, Lieutenant Duncan Campbell, two serjeants, two drummers, and thirty rank and file wounded.

1764 After passing the winter at Fort Pitt, the regiment was again employed under Colonel Bouquet against the Indian tribes, in the summer of 1764. They again

left the fort in the beginning of October, and penetrated the Indian territory to Tuscarawas, where they arrived about the middle of that month. This advance into their country threw the savage tribes into consternation, and they did not venture to resist. The detachment advanced two hundred and fifty miles into the centre of the towns of the Delaware Indians, and near the principal settlement of the Shawnese: the Delaware tribes, some broken clans of Mohihons, and other nations, were reduced to submission; all the white captives—men, women, and children, were released, and a treaty of peace was concluded on the most favourable terms.

After accomplishing this important service, the troops returned to Fort Pitt, where the FORTY-SECOND Highlanders were stationed in 1765. In their services against the Indians, they had been conspicuous for their ability to undergo the extremes of heat and cold, with great toil and privation, often marching many miles through trackless woods and deep snow, without leaving a man behind. Three men died of disease, and when the regiment returned to Fort Pitt, only nineteen men were under the care of the surgeon.

In August of this year Captain (afterwards General Sir Thomas) Stirling, was detached with Lieutenants Mc Culloch, and Edington, and a hundred men, down the Ohio; they afterwards proceeded fifteen hundred miles up the Mississippi, to Fort Chartres, in the Illinois, of which they took possession in October, and occupied it during the winter.

From Fort Pitt the regiment proceeded to Philadelphia, where it was stationed in 1766, and was joined by the detachment from the Illinois in June. After an absence of ten months, and performing a voyage and journey of three thousand miles, Captain

1766 Stirling brought back every man of his detachment in perfect health without an accident.

On the 16th of October, the officers and soldiers of the detachment from the Illinois received the thanks of the commander-in-chief for their conduct\*.

1767 The regiment remained at Philadelphia until the summer of 1767, when it received orders to embark for Ireland. Many of the men volunteered to remain in the country, and were transferred to other corps; others were discharged and settled in North America, where the regiment was held in high estimation. It had possessed an excellent body of officers—gentlemen of family, education, and character, and many of them distinguished for professional acquirements. The men were conspicuous for the virtues of a pastoral and agricultural life, elevated by love of country, military ardour, and respect for their own character. Thus constituted, it cannot be a subject of surprise, that the corps had made the same impressions on the Americans as elsewhere. It received the thanks of the commander-in-chief in America, for its conduct in that country, in orders, on the 24th of July, and on the 30th of July the following paragraph appeared in the *Virginia Gazette*.—"Last Sunday evening the "ROYAL HIGHLAND Regiment embarked for Ireland,

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\* Extract from a speech delivered in Parliament, on the occasion of the repeal of the Stamp Act, in 1766, by the Right Honorable William Pitt, afterwards The Earl of Chatham.

"I sought for merit wherever it could be found. It is my boast that I was the first minister who looked for it, and found it, in the mountains of the north. I called it forth, and drew into your service a hardy and intrepid race of men; men who, when left by your jealousy, became a prey to the artifices of your enemies, and had gone nigh to have overturned the State, in the war before last. These men, in the last war, were brought to combat on your side; they served with fidelity, as they fought with valour, and conquered for you in every quarter of the world."

“ which regiment, since its arrival in America, has been 1767  
“ distinguished for having undergone most amazing  
“ fatigues, made long and frequent marches through  
“ an inhospitable country, bearing excessive heat and  
“ severe cold with alacrity and cheerfulness, frequently  
“ encamping in deep snow, such as those who inhabit  
“ the interior parts of this province do not see, and  
“ which only those who inhabit the most northern  
“ parts of Europe can have any idea of, continually  
“ exposed in camp and on their marches to the alarms  
“ of a savage enemy, who in all their attacks were  
“ forced to fly. In a particular manner, the freemen  
“ of this and the neighbouring provinces have most  
“ sincerely to thank the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS for that  
“ resolution and bravery, with which they, under  
“ Colonel Bouquet, and a small number of Royal  
“ Americans, defeated the enemy and ensured to us  
“ peace and security from a savage foe. And along  
“ with our blessings for these benefits, they have our  
“ thanks for that decorum in behaviour which they  
“ maintained during their stay in this city, giving an  
“ example that the most amiable behaviour in civil  
“ life is in no way inconsistent with the character of  
“ the good soldier.”

The regiment landed at Cork in October, and General Lord John Murray marched into the town in full uniform at the head of his corps, of which he was highly proud; and recruiting parties were immediately sent to the Highlands.

In May, 1768, the regiment was reviewed in 1768 Galway, by Major-General Arminger; it was complete to the establishment, and every man born north of the Tay, excepting two. After the review it marched to Londonderry.

In the royal warrant of the 19th of December, 1768, the FORTY-SECOND, or ROYAL HIGHLANDERS, are

- 1768 authorised to bear—"In the centre of their colours, "the King's cypher within the garter, and crown over "it. Under it, *St. Andrew*, with the motto *Nemo me "impunè lacessit*. In the three corners of the second "colour, the King's cypher and crown. On the "grenadier caps the King's crest; also *St. Andrew*, as "in the colours. On the drums and bells of arms, the "same device, with the rank of the regiment under-  
"neath."
- 1769 The regiment was employed on Dublin duty in 1769; in which year the men received white waist-coats, in the place of scarlet, (authorized by the royal warrant of 19th December, 1768,) and the badger-skin purses were replaced by others of goat skin and buff leather.
- 1770 From Dublin the regiment was removed to Donaghadee and Belfast, in 1770; and was employed in aid of the civil power. Three companies were afterwards stationed in the Isle of Man.
- 1771 In 1771 an additional company was placed on the establishment, to which Captain James Mc Pherson, Lieutenant Campbell, and Ensign John Grant were appointed.
- 1772 The regiment was employed in 1772 in suppressing tumults, occasioned by the conflicting sentiments and interests between the Roman Catholics and Protestants, and landlords and tenants, in Antrim and other places, and in this delicate service the Highlanders were found particularly useful, from their knowledge of the language, and their conciliating conduct towards the Irish,—the descendants from the same parent stock with themselves.
- 1773 In 1773 the royal authority was given for the officers to continue wearing the sash across the left shoulder.
- 1774 While employed on Dublin duty, in 1774, the



regiment was supplied with new arms; the serjeants 1774 receiving carbines instead of the Lochaber-axe, or halberd.

During the period the regiment was in Ireland, 1775 a misunderstanding between Great Britain and her North American colonies had assumed a character which indicated an approaching conflict. At this time the regiment embarked at Donaghadee, for Scotland, from which country it had been absent thirty-two years. During the eight years it had been in Ireland it had been conspicuous for the *esprit de corps*, and excellent system of interior economy which had prevailed in the regiment. After landing at Port Patrick, it marched to Glasgow, and its establishment was augmented to upwards of eleven hundred officers and soldiers. Recruiting parties were sent into the districts where they had acquaintance and influence; and in so high an estimation was the corps held,—old men regarding it as a representative of the achievements of their forefathers, and young men being proud of serving in its ranks,—that the establishment was completed in a few weeks. The recruits were supplied with new arms, viz.: muskets and bayonets by the government,—broad-swords and pistols (iron-stocked) by the colonel.

The regiment was reviewed on the 10th of April, 1776 1776, by Major-General Sir Adolphus Oughton, who reported it complete and fit for service; the private soldiers being 931 Highlanders, 74 Lowland Scots, 5 English (in the band), 1 Welsh, and 2 Irish: its colonel, General Lord John Murray, published a regimental order, congratulating the corps on its efficiency and high reputation; and in a few days after the review it embarked for America, to fight against a people in whose interests it had fought a few years previously, and who were indebted to it for protection and safety.

1776 Four days after the regiment sailed from Greenock, the fleet was separated by a gale of wind, and the "Oxford" transport, with one company on board, was captured by an American privateer. The military officers and ship's crew were removed on board the privateer, and an American crew put on board the transport, with directions to proceed to the nearest friendly port. A few days afterwards the Highland soldiers overpowered the Americans, and with the assistance of the carpenter, who had been left on board, navigated the vessel to the Chesapeake, and cast anchor at Jamestown. This place had, however, been evacuated by the British; the Americans seized on the vessel, and marched the Highlanders prisoners to Williamsburgh, in Virginia, where exertions were made to induce them to join the American cause. When the offers of military promotion were rejected, grants of fertile land to settle upon in freedom were tendered to the Highlanders if they would renounce their allegiance; these offers were, however, rejected by the loyal soldiers, who were sent in small parties to the back settlements. In 1778 they were exchanged, and re-joined the regiment.

The other transports continued their voyage, and joined the armament under General Sir William Howe, which landed on Staten Island on the 3rd of August. The flank companies of the FORTY-SECOND joined grenadier and light infantry battalions; and the battalion companies were formed into two temporary battalions, the command of one being given to Major William Murray (Lintrose), and the other to Major William Grant (Rothiemurchus), the whole under Colonel Thomas Stirling. These small battalions were placed in the reserve under Major-General Earl Cornwallis; and were trained by Colonel Stirling in bush-fighting, for which the High-

landers evinced great aptitude, and proved good 1776 marksmen; but their natural impetuosity, which led them to disdain fighting in ambush, required restraining.

The first enterprise in which the FORTY-SECOND were engaged was the reduction of *Long Island*, in which service they formed part of the van of the army, and landed in Gravesend Bay, covered by three frigates and two bomb ketches, on the 22nd of August: the other divisions following, and occupying a position in front of the villages of Gravesend and Utrecht. The American army was posted beyond a chain of woody mountains, with fortified lines at *Brooklyn*.

On the night of the 26th of August the heights were passed, and the enemy's position attacked. The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS were detached, on this occasion, from the reserve, to support two brigades under Major-General Grant, which advanced by the sea-coast, to attack the enemy in that quarter. About midnight this force fell in with the enemy's advance-posts, and at day-break its march was opposed by a numerous body of Americans in a strong position defended with cannon. Some skirmishing and cannonading ensued, which was continued until the Americans heard the firing at Brooklyn, and thus learnt that their left had been turned and forced, when they threw themselves into a morass to escape. They were attacked by the second battalion of grenadiers, and the Seventy-first regiment, and sustained severe loss, many men being suffocated in the morass. The Americans were forced at all points, and took shelter behind their fortified lines.

The regiment had Lieutenant Crammond, and nine rank and file severely wounded, one serjeant and twelve men slightly wounded; three men died of their wounds.

1776 Impressed with a sense of the superiority of the British troops, the Americans withdrew from their lines on the night of the 28th of August, and passed the river to New York.

Having completed the capture of Long Island, the army crossed the river in the middle of September; the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS being with the leading division, landed above New York, and made a movement towards Bloomingdale, to intercept the retreating Americans, when a corps of Virginians and New England men were captured. The Highlanders passed the night under arms, occasionally skirmishing with the enemy; and their commanding officer, Major William Murray, narrowly escaped being made prisoner. He was passing from the light infantry battalion, to the regiment, and was beset by an American officer and two soldiers, whom he kept at bay some time, but they eventually closed upon him and threw him down; he was a stout man of great strength of arm, and he wrenched the sword out of the American officer's hand, and made so good use of it, that his antagonists fled, before several men of the regiment, who heard the noise, could come to his assistance.

On the following day the regiment was ordered to support the light infantry engaged in a wood, and took part in driving a numerous body of Americans to their intrenchments. The enemy renewed the conflict with augmented numbers, and sustained another repulse, with a severe loss in killed and wounded. This being only an affair of out-posts, no detailed account of it was given; but it was a well-contested action. The FORTY-SECOND had one serjeant and three rank and file killed; Captains Duncan McPherson, and John McIntosh, Ensign Alexander McKenzie (who died of his wounds),

three serjeants, one piper, two drummers, and forty- 1776  
seven rank and file wounded.

The British advanced up the country, and forced the Americans to retreat from their fortified position at White Plains, and afterwards undertook the siege of *Fort Washington*, a strong post which interrupted the communication between New York and the continent, to the eastward and northward of Hudson's river, and was garrisoned by three thousand men. When this fort was attacked by storm, the FORTY-SECOND were selected to cross the lower part of Haerlem Creek in boats, and make a demonstration on the left between the enemy's lines towards New York. On the morning of the 16th of November the regiment embarked, and as it crossed the creek, it was exposed to a heavy fire from the heights. Arriving at the shore, the Highlanders leaped out of the boats, and rushed up the woody promontory, climbing by the aid of brushwood and shrubs, and stormed the heights with so much rapidity, that they speedily overpowered the determined resistance of the enemy, and two hundred Americans, who had not time to effect their escape, laid down their arms. Pursuing their advantage, the Highlanders speedily passed the table-land on the hill, and met the troops, under Major-General Earl Percy, mounting from the opposite side, thus succeeding in their gallant efforts beyond all expectation. Soon afterwards the enemy surrendered.

The thanks of General Sir William Howe were communicated to Lieutenant-Colonel Stirling and the FORTY-SECOND Highlanders, for their spirited conduct on this occasion. Their loss was one serjeant and ten rank and file killed; Lieutenants Patrick Graham (Inchebrackie), Norman McLeod, and Alexander Grant, four serjeants and sixty-six rank and

1776 file wounded; upwards of a hundred men received contusions and slight injuries.

The ROYAL Highlanders were afterwards detached across the North River, under Lieutenant-General Earl Cornwallis, against *Fort Lee*, but the enemy abandoned this post, leaving the guns, ammunition, and stores behind. The regiment was afterwards employed in the pursuit of the Americans, through the Jerseys, towards the Delaware; but the troops employed in this service were ordered to halt at Brunswick, which gave the provincials time to recover their confidence.

When the army went into winter quarters, the ROYAL Highlanders were stationed on the line of advance-posts.

1777 In January, 1777, General Washington surprised and made prisoners a body of Hessian troops in British pay, at *Trenton*; this rendered the position of the ROYAL Highlanders, forming the left of the line of defence at Mount Holly, extremely critical, and they were ordered to fall back to Prince Town. The regiment was afterwards employed, with other troops, under Earl Cornwallis, in driving the Americans from Trenton.

Soon after this affair the regiment was stationed at the village of *Pisquata*, on the line of communication between New York and Brunswick, by Amboy, —a post of great importance, covering the supplies of provisions, which the Americans were constantly attempting to cut off. This rendered the duties of the regiment particularly severe, in inclement weather, and the accommodations of the officers and soldiers, with a few exceptions, were limited to the use of barns and sheds, during the snow-storms of a severe winter. On one occasion a detachment of the regiment, escorting provision waggons, was attacked by

a numerous body of the enemy, and as the resolute 1777 Highlanders contended manfully against superior numbers, another party came to their aid: the Americans were placed between two fires, and they fled in confusion, leaving between three and four hundred men dead upon the spot. Immediately on their arrival in quarters the soldiers received an extra ration of rum\*.

Numerous parties of the enemy approached the piquets and sentinels of the regiment from time to time, in the night, and fired their muskets, but they did not venture to attack the quarters of the FORTY-SECOND; and in this manner many weeks passed away without any serious rencontre.

At four o'clock on the afternoon of the 10th of May, the American Generals Maxwell and Stephens advanced, with two thousand men, with great secrecy, under the cover of trees, &c., and suddenly appeared on some open grounds in front of the piquets. The Highlanders on duty in front of the corps, seized their arms and made a spirited resistance; the reserve came to their assistance, and they disputed the ground against overwhelming numbers, to give time for the regiment to turn out. As the piquets opposed the crowds of enemies which environed them on every side, the regiment formed and came suddenly upon the enemy, whose superior numbers were unable to resist the rough shock of the attacking Highlanders. The second brigade got under arms to support the regi-

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*"Brunswick, 1st March, 1777.*

"EARL CORNWALLIS'S ORDERS.

"The General desires that an extraordinary day's rum may immediately be given to the FORTY-SECOND Regiment, for its gallant conduct in repulsing and defeating upwards of three thousand of the enemy, with considerable loss."

1777 ment; but the FORTY-SECOND were victorious without aid, and the Highlanders pursued their opponents through the woody grounds until the approach of night induced them to desist. At the termination of the contest, an American soldier brought a wounded Highlander,—Serjeant Mc Gregor,—to the regiment on his back, and was thanked by Earl Cornwallis, who had just arrived, and by Colonel Stirling, for his kindness; but the American confessed he was about to plunder the serjeant of a pair of silver buckles and a watch, when the wounded man seized him by the throat with one hand, and having a dirk in the other, forced him to perform this act at the peril of his life.

The regiment had three serjeants and nine rank and file killed; Captain Duncan Mc Pherson, Lieutenant William Stewart, three serjeants, and thirty rank and file wounded. The Americans left upwards of two hundred men killed and wounded on the scene of conflict.

Actions of this kind, being considered as affairs of out-posts, are not related in general histories; but the gallant conduct of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS on this occasion, was appreciated at the time; it was a subject of admiration to the whole army, and was commended by the commander-in-chief\*. Soon afterwards one hundred and seventy recruits joined from Scotland.

In June the regiment took the field with the army, and was employed in the operations by which the

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*“Brunswick, 14th May, 1777.”*

“EARL CORNWALLIS’S ORDERS.

“His Excellency the commander-in-chief has requested Earl Cornwallis to communicate his thanks to the FORTY-SECOND Regiment, for its spirited behaviour on the 10th instant, when it defeated a body of the enemy much superior to itself in numbers; and he is much pleased with the alertness with which the second brigade got under arms to support the FORTY-SECOND Regiment.”



English commander endeavoured to bring the American 1777 army to a general engagement; but the enemy kept in the mountain fastnesses, to avoid the hazard of a battle.

An expedition to Pennsylvania was afterwards resolved upon, and the FORTY-SECOND shared in this enterprise. They embarked at Sandy Hook in the early part of July, sailed to Chesapeak Bay, and proceeding up the Elk river, landed on the 25th of August at Elk ferry, from whence they advanced on Philadelphia.

General Washington took up a position at *Brandywine Creek* to oppose the advance; but his out-posts were driven in, and his troops forced from their ground with severe loss, on the 11th of September. The FORTY-SECOND battalion companies were in reserve on this occasion, and were not engaged; but the flank companies took a conspicuous part in the action, and had four private soldiers killed; two serjeants, and fifteen rank and file wounded.

Information having been received, that fifteen hundred Americans, commanded by *General Wayne*, were concealed in the woods three miles from the British quarters, to carry on a warfare against detached parties, Major-General Charles (afterwards Earl) Grey, proceeded from camp, during the night of the 20th of September, with the first battalion of Light Infantry, the FORTY-SECOND and Forty-fourth regiments, to surprise the enemy. The march was conducted with great secrecy, and soon after midnight the British approached the enemy's left, and bayoneted the piquets and out-guards in an instant. Guided by the light of the camp fires, they then rushed forward, and commenced the work of destruction with the bayonet. About three hundred Americans were killed and wounded, and eighty made prisoners, including

1777 several officers; the remainder, being favoured by the darkness of the night, escaped, leaving their arms and eight waggons loaded with baggage and stores behind them. The loss of the British was limited to one officer, one serjeant, and one private soldier killed, and a few soldiers wounded.

The army afterwards advanced to *Germantown*, and the grenadiers took possession of Philadelphia. On the 29th of September the Tenth and FORTY-SECOND regiments were detached, under Lieutenant-Colonel Stirling, to attack a strong redoubt, at *Billingspoint*, on the Jersey shore, erected by the Americans to obstruct the navigation of the Delaware. The two regiments crossed the river on the 1st of October, from Chester, and marching towards the redoubt, the Americans instantly fled, first setting fire to the barracks, and spiking the guns. The Highlanders pursued for two miles, but were unable to overtake the enemy. The regiment afterwards returned to Chester, and took part in escorting a large convoy of provisions to the army.

At day-break on the morning of the 4th of October, the Americans attacked the British position at *Germantown*; but were repulsed with loss. The flank companies of the regiment were engaged on this occasion, and had twelve rank and file killed, and a considerable number wounded.

The regiment took part in the operations by which the British commander endeavoured to bring the enemy to a general engagement at White Marsh, and was afterwards quartered in the city of Philadelphia.

1778 Early in the spring of 1778 the regiment was detached on a foraging-party in the Jerseys, and had occasional skirmishes with the enemy. On one occasion an American sharpshooter and a Highlander met in a wood, and their muskets being unloaded, they

each stepped behind a tree to load. The Highlander 1778 placed his bonnet on the point of his bayonet and leaned it forward a little beyond the tree, when the American fired and hit the bonnet; the wily Scot then sprang forward and made his opponent prisoner\*.

The King of France having engaged to aid the revolted British provinces, this circumstance changed the character of the war, and occasioned orders to be issued for the march of the army from Philadelphia to New York, which took place in June, 1778, when the FORTY-SECOND were actively employed in difficult services connected with this retrograde movement, through a wild and woody country, intersected by rivers, and abounding in narrow and rugged passes.

On the 28th of June, when the last division of the army descended from the heights of *Freehold*, in New Jersey, the enemy appeared on both flanks and in the rear, and some sharp fighting took place, in which the grenadier company of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS had an opportunity of distinguishing itself. The Americans having been driven back with loss, the army continued its march. The FORTY-SECOND had Lieutenant Gilchrist wounded on this occasion, also several private soldiers killed and wounded.

The army afterwards proceeded to New York, where the FORTY-SECOND were stationed when a powerful French armament appeared off that port. The enemy had a great superiority of numbers; but the enthusiasm in the British navy and army was unbounded, and the hour of contest was looked forward to with sanguine expectations. The enemy did not,

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\* *Sketches of the character, manners, &c. of the Highlanders*, by Major-General David Stewart; from whose work many interesting particulars have been extracted respecting the FORTY-SECOND Regiment.

1778 however, venture to hazard an attack ; but proceeded against Rhode Island, and a numerous body of Americans co-operated in the enterprise and besieged Newport. The British fleet put to sea, and the FORTY-SECOND Highlanders, with two flank battalions, the Thirty-third, Forty-sixth, and Sixty-fourth Foot, embarked under Major-General Grey, to join the fleet at the east end of Long Island. When the transports were about to sail, information was received of the departure of the French fleet from Rhode Island, and when at sea news arrived of the Americans having raised the siege of Newport. The troops were then directed to proceed against *Bedford*, on the Accushnet river, a noted place for American privateers. On the evening of the 5th of September the troops landed,—overcame all opposition,—destroyed seventy privateers and other ships,—demolished the fort and artillery,—blew up the magazine,—destroyed an immense quantity of naval stores, &c., and returned on board the transports at noon on the following day. The troops afterwards proceeded against *Martha's Vineyard*,—destroyed the defences,—took 388 stand of arms from the militia,—obliged the inhabitants to deliver up three hundred oxen, ten thousand sheep, and a thousand pounds sterling collected by the Congress. After this success the regiment returned to New York, and was commended by Major-General Grey for its conduct in the enterprise.

1779 The regiment remained at New York and the vicinity of that place, until February 1779, when it was detached against the American post at Elizabethtown, with the light infantry of the Foot Guards, under Colonel Stirling. The enemy retreated, and the place was taken possession of without opposition. The regiment was thanked in general orders for its services on this occasion.

A marine yard having been established by the 1779 Americans on the Elizabeth river, and a quantity of timber collected, the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS, flank companies of the Foot Guards, Royal Volunteers of Ireland, and the Hessian regiment of Prince Charles, sailed from New York on the 5th of May, to accomplish the destruction of the enemy's establishment. A landing was effected three miles below *Portsmouth*, in Virginia, and preparations were made to storm Fort Nelson; but the Americans vacated the place, setting fire to their dock-yards, and destroying a number of shipping on the stocks. The British took possession of the town; they also penetrated the country to Suffolk, where they took extensive magazines of provision and naval stores, and two pieces of ordnance; they also captured extensive stores at Norfolk, on the other side of the river. On the 17th of May a strong party of the FORTY-SECOND crossed the river under Colonel Stirling, and proceeded to Kemp's-landing, in Princess Anne's county, where the soldiers destroyed several vessels. Five days afterwards, a party of the regiment proceeded down the river in two flat-bottomed boats, and destroyed six vessels on the stocks at Tanner's Creek. These services completed, the troops returned to New York; having taken and destroyed one hundred and thirty-seven vessels, and inflicted a loss of half a million sterling on the Americans.

During the absence of the regiment on this service, preparations had been made to attack the two forts at *Stoney Point* and *Vereplanks*, situate sixty miles above New York, on the Hudson river, and the FORTY-SECOND were ordered to proceed on this enterprise. After taking part in the capture of these places, which interrupted the communication between the eastern and western states, the regiment

On the night of the 15th of July, the Americans re-captured *Stoney Point* by surprise, and cannonaded the fort at Vereplanks. The FORTY-SECOND Highlanders were immediately embarked, with the Sixty-third and Sixty-fourth regiments, under Brigadier-General Stirling, and proceeded up the river; when the Americans withdrew, and possession was again taken of *Stoney Point*.

Colonel Stirling, having been nominated aide-de-camp to the King, and brigadier-general, the command of the regiment devolved on Major Charles Graham, who was intrusted with the charge of the two forts of Stoney Point and Vereplanks, which were garrisoned by the FORTY-SECOND, and a detachment of Fraser's Highlanders under Major Ferguson. This duty was particularly severe; the soldiers had to labour to restore and complete the works, and the American army under General Washington being near, it was necessary to be in a state of constant preparation to resist an attack. These services were appreciated by General Sir Henry Clinton\*, and in October the regiment was withdrawn, and proceeded to Greenwich, near New York, where much incon-

“The commander-in-chief requests you will signify to the **Forty-second** Regiment his acknowledgments for the cheerfulness with which they have persevered in their labours at your posts; he would wish to relieve them, but the arrangements, by which the whole army have their proportion of employment, will not permit it for the present. He therefore trusts that their wonted zeal will inspire them with patience for a little time, relying on his assurance that he will give them respite as soon as possible.

“(Signed) JOHN ANDRE, A. A. G.

*"To Major Graham."*

venience was experienced from the frost during the 1779 unusually severe winter which followed.

In 1779 a *second battalion* of seven hundred men was raised, and added to the FORTY-SECOND Royal Highland Regiment, which battalion embarked at Portsmouth for the East Indies, in January, 1781, under the command of Lt.-Colonel Norman Macleod.

During the winter of 1779 an expedition was fitted out against *Charlestown*, in South Carolina; but the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS were left at New York, where they remained until March 1780; when they received orders to join the army under General Sir Henry Clinton before *Charlestown*, the siege of which place being likely to prove a more difficult undertaking than was at first expected. The regiment sailed from New York on the 31st of March, and joined the besieging army on the 18th of April, from which date it took an active part in the operations against *Charlestown*, until the surrender of that place in the middle of May, having had Lieutenant McLeod and nine private soldiers killed, and Lieutenant Alexander Grant, and fourteen rank and file wounded. The wound of Lieutenant Grant was from a cannon ball, which struck him in the back in a slanting direction, and was considered mortal; but he recovered, to the great surprise of the surgeons. The conduct of the regiment, on this service, was commended in orders\*.

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*"Charlestown, 20th May, 1780.*

MAJOR-GENERAL LESLIE'S ORDERS.

"Major-General Leslie begs Major Graham will make it known to the FORTY-SECOND Regiment, how much he holds himself indebted to them for their good conduct at so critical a period as the taking of *Charlestown*. He embraces this opportunity to return Major Graham and the regiment his sincerest thanks, for that regularity and soldierly behaviour which has ever distinguished the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS, and which has been so conspicuous on this occasion."

1780 After the surrender of Charlestown the regiment advanced a short distance up the country to Monck's-corner, where it had a skirmish with a party of Americans; but it returned to Charlestown in the early part of June, and embarked for New York. It was encamped for some time on Staten Island, at Valentine's Hill, and other places near New York, and passed the winter in quarters at that city, where it was joined by a hundred recruits from Scotland.

1781 The regiment was stationed at New York in 1781, when that place was menaced by the enemy. In the autumn seven thousand men embarked under General Sir Henry Clinton, for the relief of the troops, under Lieutenant-General Earl Cornwallis, besieged at York Town; but on arriving at the Capes of Virginia, information was received of the surrender of York Town, and the armament returned to New York.

1782 During the year 1782 the regiment was stationed at New York. King George III. having been induced to concede the independence of the United States, hostilities ceased, and a treaty of peace was afterwards concluded.

His Majesty promoted Colonel STIRLING of the FORTY-SECOND, to the colonelcy of the Seventy-first Regiment, vice General Fraser, deceased, and the lieutenant-colonelcy of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS was conferred on Major Charles Graham, by commission dated the 28th of April, 1782.

1783 At the conclusion of the peace in 1783, the regiment quitted the advanced-post it occupied in front of New York, and embarked for Halifax in Nova Scotia. The establishment was reduced to eight companies of fifty men each; and many of the men were discharged at their own request: their places being supplied by volunteers from Fraser's and Mc Donald's Highland regiments, which were ordered



home to be disbanded, and some men were received from the Edinburgh and Duke of Hamilton's regiments.

The pistols and swords carried by the private soldiers had been laid aside during the campaign of 1776; the former were considered of no advantage, and the latter, it was said, impeded the progress of the men through the thick woods which abounded in North America, by becoming entangled among the branches. These weapons were not afterwards resumed, the musket and bayonet being considered superior to the sword. A great attachment to the broad-sword prevailed, however, among the Highland soldiers, and arguments have been advanced to prove the advantage which would result from infantry carrying swords.

On the 1st January, 1785, new colours were presented to the regiment by Major-General John Campbell, commanding the Forces in Nova Scotia, who made the following address on that occasion :—

“Forty-second, Royal Highlanders,

“With particular pleasure I address you on this occasion, and congratulate you on the service you have done your country, and the honor you have procured yourselves, by protecting your old colours, and defending them from your enemies in different engagements during the late unnatural rebellion.

“From those ragged, but honorable, remains, you are now to transfer your allegiance and fidelity to these new National and Regimental Standards of Honor, now consecrated and solemnly dedicated to the service of our King and Country. These Colours are committed to your immediate care and protection; and I trust you will, on all occasions, defend them from your enemies, with honor to yourselves, and

1785 service to your country,—with that distinguished and noble bravery which have always characterized the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS in the field of battle.

“ With what pleasure, with what peculiar satisfaction,—nay, with what pride, would I enumerate the different memorable actions where the regiment distinguished itself. To particularize the whole would exceed the bounds of this address: let me therefore beg your indulgence while I take notice only of a few of them.

“ And, first, the conduct of the regiment at the battle of *Fontenoy* was great and glorious! As long as the bravery of the fifteen battalions in that conflict shall grace the historic page, and fill the breast of every Highlander with pleasure and admiration, so long will the superior gallantry of the Forty-second Regiment bear a conspicuous part in the well-fought action of that day, and be recorded in the annals of Fame to the latest posterity!

“ Their conduct at the attack of the French lines at *Ticonderoga* was so remarkably spirited and brave, as to merit from his late Majesty a distinguished mark of royal favour by honoring the corps with the name and title of FORTY-SECOND, OR ROYAL HIGHLAND REGIMENT OF FOOT!

“ No less noble and glorious was their behaviour at the reduction of *Martinique*,—the siege of the *Havannah*,—together with their uncommonly steady and determined fortitude against a multitude of savages at *Bushy-Run*!

“ Whilst, Royal Highlanders, you reflect on the magnanimity of your ancestors and your countrymen, does not the fire of true heroism burn within you? Will not the recollection of their bravery and good conduct, together with a proper sense of your own military achievements of a more recent date, in over-

coming the almost insurmountable difficulties and 1785 dangers at *Fort Washington*, and your resolute and spirited behaviour in repulsing a superior number of the enemy in the affair of *Pisquata*, stimulate and excite you to support the character you have so justly acquired; so that when you may at any time be called upon to defend the sacred rights of your King and Country, you will be able to show to the world, and to convince your enemies, with your usual intrepidity, that there is no enterprise, however daring, of which you are not still capable, in the rugged paths of martial gallantry? I know you will, Royal Highlanders; and I am convinced that it will always be a point of honor with the corps, considered as a collective body, to support and maintain a *national* character!

“For this purpose you should ever remember, that being a national and reputable corps, your actions as citizens and civil subjects, as well as your conduct as soldiers, will be much observed,—more than those of any other regiment in the service. Your good behaviour will be handed down with honor to posterity, and your faults, if you commit any, will not only be reported but magnified, by other corps who are emulous of your *civil* as well as of your *military* character. Your decent, sober, and regular behaviour in the different quarters you have hitherto occupied, has rendered you the distinguished favourites of their respective inhabitants. For the sake, then, of your country,—for the sake of your own established character, which must be dearer to you than every other consideration, do not tarnish your fame by a subsequent behaviour less manly!

“Do not, I beseech you, my fellow-soldiers, allow your morals to be corrupted by associating with low, mean, or bad company. A man is always known by

1785 his companions; and if any one among you should at any time be seen spending his money in base, worthless company, he ought to be set up and exposed as an object of regimental contempt!

“To conclude: As you have, as soldiers, displayed sufficient valour in the field by defeating the enemies of your country, suffer me to recommend to you, as Christians, to use your best endeavours, now in the time of peace, to overcome the enemies of your immortal souls! Believe me, my fellow-soldiers, and be assured, that the faith and virtues of a Christian add much to the valour, firmness, and fidelity of a soldier! He, beyond comparison, has the best reason, and the strongest motive, for doing his duty in scenes of danger, who has nothing to fear, but everything to hope, in a future existence!

“Ought you not, therefore, to be solicitous to adorn your minds with, at least, the principal and leading Christian virtues, so that if it should be your fate hereafter to fall in the field of battle, your acquaintances and friends will have the joyful consolation of hearing that you leave an unspotted name, and of being assured that you rose from a bed of honor to a crown of immortality!

“*Halifax, 1st January, 1785\*.*”

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\* In a memorial addressed to the Right Honorable the Secretary at War by Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Graham, commanding the first battalion of the FORTY-SECOND Royal Highland Regiment, on the 6th June, 1785, when it was expected that the second battalion would be disbanded, and that many of the officers, who had served with great merit during the American war, would be reduced to half-pay, the Lieutenant-Colonel, in advocating the claims of his officers, thus expresses himself:—“The FORTY-SECOND Regiment “was ordered, in the spring of 1776, on Service to North America, “where, during the whole course of the War which followed, it may “with truth be averred, that no one Regiment was more constantly

The regiment remained in Nova Scotia until 1786, 1786 when it embarked for the island of Cape Breton, in the gulph of St. Lawrence, detaching two companies to the island of St. John's.

In April, 1786, the Second Battalion of the FORTY-SECOND Royal Highland Regiment, which was then in the East Indies, was directed to be constituted the *Seventy-third* Highland Regiment, and has, from that period, been retained on the establishment of the Army, the services of which regiment will be given in a distinct Record.

In 1787, when the revolutionary proceedings in the 1787 Netherlands gave indication of an approaching war, two companies were added to the establishment of the regiment. The officers were Captains William Johnstone and Robert Christie; Lieutenants James Rose and Robert M'Donald (Sanda); and Ensigns David Stewart (Garth), and James Stewart, nephew of the Earl of Moray. Active young Highlanders, to complete the two companies, were procured with facility, the reputation of the corps being an inducement to young men to enrol themselves in its ranks.

After commanding the regiment forty-two years, General Lord John Murray died, and was succeeded by Major-General Sir Hector Munro, K.B., by commission, dated the 1st of June, 1787.

The regiment embarked from Cape Breton in 1789 August, 1789, and arrived in Great Britain in October, after an absence of nearly fourteen years. It landed at Portsmouth, from whence it marched to Tyne-mouth, where it passed the winter, and was joined by two hundred and forty-five recruits.

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"employed, serving chiefly with one or other of the Flank Corps, and  
"that no Regiment was more exposed to danger,—underwent more  
"fatigue,—or suffered more from both."

1789 At this period the black leather belts for the bayonets were laid aside, and white belts were adopted: the size of the officers' epaulettes was also considerably enlarged.

1790 In May, 1790, the regiment marched by Berwick and Edinburgh to Glasgow; its reception at the several towns in England and Scotland, through which it passed, was warm and cordial; the gallant achievements of the corps were known, and the hospitality of the people of Glasgow to the members of the corps was extraordinary. From Glasgow the regiment proceeded to Edinburgh Castle. The revolutionary proceedings in France, and a misunderstanding with Spain, occasioned a further augmentation to the regiment. Several independent companies were also raised in Scotland, and Captain the Marquis of Huntly exchanging from an independent company to the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS, brought with him a fine band.

While the regiment was stationed at Edinburgh, several alarming fires occurred, and the soldiers evinced great alacrity in rendering aid on these occasions.

1791 After being reviewed by Lieutenant-General Lord Adam Gordon in June, 1791, the regiment marched northward, the head-quarters being at Fort George; 1792 in the spring of 1792 it proceeded to Stirling, where it was reviewed by Lieut.-General Leslie, and afterwards resumed its former quarters.

At this period some disturbances occurred in Ross-shire, where many Highland families were ejected by the great landowners from the little farms they occupied, in order to convert large tracts of country into grazing districts, and the people were forced to seek homes in other parts of the kingdom, or in distant colonies, which occasioned much suffering. A few months afterwards, the cottagers who remained rose in a body, and drove the flocks of sheep, which had

been introduced, beyond the borders of the county. 1792  
The FORTY-SECOND Regiment was ordered to proceed by forced marches into the disturbed districts; but when it arrived there, all was tranquil,—the people having previously separated. The Highland soldiers were thus spared the painful duty of turning their arms against their countrymen and relatives. The regiment afterwards proceeded southwards, and garrisoned the coast from Dundee to Fort George during the winter.

In the mean time the revolutionary principles, which 1793 had been manifested in Flanders and Holland, had broken out in France with terrific violence, and the promoters of these doctrines, having gained the ascendancy, had enforced sanguinary decrees in the State, and shed the blood of the King. Against these outrageous proceedings the British government pronounced direct hostility, and war was commenced, to arrest the progress of democracy, which menaced Europe with universal anarchy. Two independent companies of Scots Infantry, raised by Captains David Hunter, of Burnside, and Alexander Campbell, of Ardochattan, were ordered to join the regiment on this occasion, preparatory to its proceeding on foreign service. In May, it embarked from Musselburgh for Hull, and was stationed at that place two months. This was the first instance of a Highland regiment appearing in that part of Yorkshire, and the conduct of the FORTY-SECOND procured the respect and esteem of the inhabitants\*.

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\* During the winter of 1793, subscriptions were raised in various parts of England for making some addition to the comforts of the soldiers on foreign service, when the following letter was received by the commanding officer of the regiment, dated *Hull*, 21st November, 1793 :—

“ SIR,—The committee appointed at this place for the purchasing

1793 From Hull the regiment was removed to Gosport, and in the middle of September it embarked for Flanders to join the army commanded by his Royal Highness the Duke of York: it landed at Ostend, and joined a body of troops encamped near Menin; but was soon afterwards ordered to return to England to join an expedition preparing to proceed to the West Indies, under Lieutenant-General Sir Charles Grey, who had evinced attachment to the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS since the period they served under his orders in America.

Previous to the sailing of the regiment from Ostend, the port of *Nieuport* was besieged by the French, and the FORTY-SECOND Highlanders, with the flank companies of the Nineteenth, Twenty-seventh, and Fifty-seventh regiments were detached to reinforce the garrison. On the arrival of this addition to the garrison, and the approach of another body of troops, the French gave up all hopes of success: they kept up a brisk fire of shot and shells during the night, killing and wounding several of the garrison, and made a precipitate retreat on the following morning. The FORTY-SECOND had one serjeant and one private soldier killed; two soldiers wounded.

After the departure of the enemy, the regiment

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“ of sundry articles of clothing, for the use of the British troops on  
“ foreign service, have requested me to obtain information whether  
“ flannel drawers and strong shoes would be acceptable to the regi-  
“ ment under your command. The general propriety of the conduct  
“ of the soldiers was highly approved of by the inhabitants of this  
“ place, who wish to offer a testimony of their good opinion, by apply-  
“ ing a part of the money subscribed exclusively to their use.

“ I have, &c.,

“ (Signed) JOHN WRAY.”



returned to Ostend, from whence it sailed to Ports- 1793 mouth.

Meanwhile the French royalists of *La Vendée* had taken arms against the regicide government, and solicited aid from England, expecting they should be able to gain possession of a sufficient length of coast for an English army to land. An expedition was accordingly fitted out for their aid, under Major-General the Earl of Moira, and the destination of the FORTY-SECOND was changed from the West Indies to his lordship's command. The fleet put to sea in December; but the French royalists had not penetrated to the coast, and no debarkation could take place with any prospect of success. The Vendéans, however, evinced extraordinary courage and determination, fighting the armies of the republic, and frequently triumphing over an immense superiority of numbers possessed of many advantages. While this warfare was going on in the interior of France, the English expedition was held in suspense, and the fleet was driven about the channel in stormy weather. 1794 The troops afterwards returned to Portsmouth, from whence the brigade under Major-General Lord Cathcart, of which the FORTY-SECOND under Major Dalrymple (Colonel Graham commanding a brigade) formed part, proceeded to Lymington in January, 1794.

At length the resolute Vendéans penetrated to the sea; but the arrival of the British forces being delayed, they became impatient and quitted the coast. Being afterwards informed of the resolution of the British government to give them powerful aid, they commenced their march for Cherbourg; but were overpowered on the road by the republican armies, and destroyed. The inhuman barbarities exercised on the royalists on that occasion, give a picture of the character of democracy.

1794 The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS were stationed at Ly-mington, under Lord Cathcart, until June, when an encampment was formed at Netley in Hampshire, where a body of troops was assembled under Major-General the Earl of Moira.

During the campaign of this year the French brought so great a superiority of numbers into the field in Flanders, that they defeated the Austrians and obliged them to retreat, which rendered it necessary for the army under his Royal Highness the Duke of York to make retrograde movements. At this period the FORTY-SECOND and other corps under the Earl of Moira, were ordered to proceed to Flanders. This force landed at Ostend on the 26th of June, at which time the troops under the Duke of York were pressed by superior numbers, and were retiring upon Antwerp; and the Earl of Moira resolved not to limit the services of his reinforcement to the defence of Ostend; but to endeavour to join his Royal Highness. After a tedious march, in the face of a superior and victorious enemy, whose troops were already overrunning the country in all directions, the forces under the Earl of Moira arrived at *Alost*, and on the 6th of July, while the British were at this place, a body of French cavalry rode into the town, but was speedily chased out again by the English Light Dragoons. The FORTY-SECOND had one man wounded on this occasion,—private McDonald. This man was carrying a quantity of rations through the market-place, when a French trooper rode up to him and inflicted a sabre-wound on his arm; McDonald instantly threw down his burden, and attacked the dragoon with his bayonet, and the Frenchman rode off at speed.

After overcoming all difficulties, the Earl of Moira's corps joined the army under the Duke of York, at

Malines, on the 9th of July, and the ROYAL HIGH-1794 LANDERS were attached to the reserve under Lieutenant-General Abercromby; the Earl of Moira returning to England\*.

At this period the French had too great a superiority of numbers to leave the British any prospect of ultimate success; but several positions were held with tenacity to enable the Dutch to prepare their fortified towns for a protracted defence; this, however, they neglected to do, but yielded up their fortresses to the enemy.

The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS shared in the operations of the army, which consisted of a series of retrograde movements ably executed, and some skirmishing. On the morning of the 15th of September they were detached, with the other regiments of their brigade, under Lieutenant-Colonel Honorable Arthur Wellesley (now Field-Marshal the Duke of Wellington), who then commanded the Thirty-third Regiment, to recover possession of Bostel; but the enemy was found in too great force.

After several retrograde movements the army took 1795 post behind the Waal, and defended the passage of that river until the early part of January 1795, when the frosts of that unusually severe winter had converted the stream into a mass of ice, which rendered it necessary to continue the retreat, and the army withdrew through Holland to Germany. Previous to quitting the banks of the Waal, some sharp fighting

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\* Extract from Regimental Orders dated the 31st of August, 1794:—

“The Earl of Moira desires the commanding officer to notify his great regret at parting with his friends, the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS, and to mention, that, should he ever go upon service, he hopes it will be with them.”

1795 occurred; the French crossing the river on the ice, and attacking the British posts; on all of which occasions British valour was conspicuous. The FORTY-SECOND shared in these services, and had several men killed and wounded; Lieutenant-Colonel Lamont being among the wounded.

The sufferings of the soldiers during this winter-campaign were particularly great from the unusual severity of the weather. Marching through regions of snow and ice, exposed to privations of every kind, and followed by an enemy of superior numbers, whom it was necessary frequently to engage, put to a severe test the capabilities of the men. In the performance of these arduous services, the soldiers of the FORTY-SECOND evinced astonishing powers of endurance, undergoing fatigue, hunger, and exposure to snow-storms and severe frost, without that loss of life which occurred in many other regiments. Under these accumulated sufferings the soldiers received unkind treatment from the Dutch people; but when the army arrived at Bremen in Germany, the inhabitants evinced great hospitality. In April the regiment embarked for England. Its total loss, from the period it landed at Ostend, was only twenty-five men killed and died of diseases, &c.; but several other regiments had lost above two hundred men from disease alone; which proves the capabilities of Highlanders to endure the vicissitudes of war and climate.

After landing at Harwich, the regiment proceeded to Chelmsford, and in June it was encamped near Danbury, under Lieutenant-General Sir William Medows: in September its effective strength was increased to a thousand rank and file, by drafts from several Highland corps raised in the preceding year and ordered to be disbanded. These recruits were efficient soldiers; but they produced a greater diversity

of character than had formerly existed in the corps. 1795 Highland recruits obtained direct from their native glens, were always conspicuous for a strict attention to every moral and religious duty, and when the corps consisted of Highlanders only, this trait of character was preserved; but when the Highlanders were mingled with men from every part of the United Kingdom, it was soon lost, as was the case with the men who joined on this occasion.

The regiment joined the armament under Lieutenant-General Sir Ralph Abercromby, designed to complete the deliverance of the French West India Islands from the power of the republican government, and to reduce to obedience the insurgents on the islands of St. Vincent and Grenada. The force assembled on this occasion exceeded in numbers any British armament which had previously quitted the English coast; and the departure of the fleet, consisting of several hundred vessels escorted by a division of the royal navy under Admiral Christian, was a scene calculated to impress the mind with a just idea of British wealth and British power. The day was uncommonly fine, the wind favourable, and the whole were clear of the Isle of Wight before sunset, excepting the "Middlesex" East Indiaman, with five hundred men of the FORTY-SECOND on board. This ship had her bowsprit carried away by the "Undaunted" frigate, and was obliged to return to port for repairs, which probably saved her from more serious injury; the fleet having been dispersed and driven back by a severe storm, several ships wrecked, and many lives lost.

The fleet put to sea a second time in December, and a serene sky and favourable breeze appeared to promise a prosperous voyage; but the winter proved unusually stormy, and the violence of the wind exceeded what is customary in these latitudes. After persevering against

1796 unfavourable weather for some time, a great part of the fleet returned to port in January 1796, but many vessels continued the voyage. The FORTY-SECOND were thus separated, five companies proceeding to the West Indies, and five returning to port. The excellent arrangements which had been made for the preservation of the health of the troops, prevented serious injury resulting from the men being detained so long on board ship. The government being thus unavoidably disappointed, for a time, in the object of the expedition, changed the destination of several corps, including the five companies of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS which had returned to port. These companies landed and marched to Lymington, and in May they embarked for Gibraltar, under Lieutenant-Colonel Dickson.

On the 9th of February the "Middlesex" East Indiaman arrived at Barbadoes, with five companies of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS on board, in so excellent a state of health, that only two men were on the surgeon's list, and they were under treatment for slight bruises, which proves that great care and attention had been paid to preserve the efficiency of the troops. The soldiers were detained in a crowded state, on board the transports, exposed to the heat of a vertical sun, two months; but the attention which was paid to ventilation, exercise, cleanliness, diet, and mental occupation, so far averted the pernicious effects which might have resulted from close confinement in such a climate, that not one man of the FORTY-SECOND died, and only four were unfit for duty when active operations commenced: the sick of some corps were so numerous as to fill the hospitals.

In April the five companies proceeded with the expedition against the island of *St. Lucia*, and formed part of the brigade under Major-General (afterwards

Sir John) Moore. A landing was effected at several 1796 points on the 26th of April, when the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS gained the shore in a small bay near Pigeon Island, and they shared in the operations which followed; taking part in some sharp fighting which occurred, and evincing the same forward gallantry and contempt of danger for which the regiment had always been distinguished. The loss of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS in these services was limited to Lieutenant J. J. Fraser wounded, and a few private soldiers killed and wounded. In May the French garrison surrendered prisoners of war. It was remarked, that while active operations were in progress, which were particularly harassing from the mountainous nature of the island, the soldiers remained in health; but after the French garrison had surrendered, disease became alarmingly prevalent, which proved the advantage of mental and bodily exercise in the preservation of health.

The five companies of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS were selected to form part of the expedition against the island of *St. Vincent*, where a landing was effected on the 8th of June, and arrangements were made to attack the post of New Vigie,—an eminence on which the enemy had constructed four redoubts, stronger by the natural difficulties of the approach, than by the art displayed in their formation. On the 10th of June this post was attacked, on which occasion the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS, and a party of rangers, advanced to the bottom of a woody steep, on the top of which stood the first redoubt in the range, to make a demonstration in that direction; but the heroic ardour of the Highlanders turned this demonstration into a real attack. Being supported by a detachment of the Buffs, a gallant assault was made on the position, and in half an hour the first three redoubts were captured.

1796 Some of the Highlanders continued their victorious career, and took post close under the last and principal redoubt, ready to storm it, as soon as they should be supported by an additional force; but the commander-in-chief, finding that he had the enemy completely in his power, was anxious to spare the lives of his men, and ordering them to withdraw, he summoned the enemy to surrender. As the soldiers retired from their advanced station, they became exposed to the enemy's fire, and several men were killed and wounded. The fall of three soldiers of the FORTY-SECOND, named Farquharson,—two of them brothers and the other an uncle's son, who were killed by the same volley, was much regretted\*. The FORTY-SECOND had one serjeant and twelve rank and file killed; Lieutenant Simon Fraser, two serjeants, one drummer, and twenty-nine rank and file wounded.

The enemy surrendered prisoners of war, but about six hundred men broke the capitulation and escaped

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\* Major-General David Stewart related the following particulars of the conduct of a soldier's wife, on this occasion, in his narrative of the services of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS:—"I directed her husband, who was in my company, to remain behind in charge of the men's knapsacks, which they had thrown off to be light for the advance up the hill. He obeyed his orders; but his wife, believing, I suppose, that she was not included in these injunctions, pushed forward in the assault. When the enemy had been driven from the third redoubt, I was standing, giving some directions to the men, and preparing to push on to the fourth and last redoubt, when I found myself tapped on the shoulder, and turning round, I saw my Amazonian friend standing with her clothes tucked up to the knees, and seizing my arm, 'Well done my Highland lads,' she exclaimed, 'see how the brigands scamper like so many deer!' 'come,' added she, 'let us drive them from yonder hill.' On inquiry I found she had been in the hottest fire, cheering and animating the men, and when the action was over, she was as active as any of the surgeons in assisting the wounded."



to the woods, to join their friends at the farther end 1796 of the island. These men were followed by several detachments from the army, including the FORTY-SECOND under Lieutenant-Colonel James Stewart, who proceeded to Colanaire. The service in which the Highlanders were employed on this occasion, against the French republicans and the native *Caribbees* in the woods, was of a trying and harassing character. On one occasion two parties of the FORTY-SECOND, and one of the Second West India Regiment, were ordered out, each taking a different direction. The parties of the FORTY-SECOND attacked two posts, and drove the enemy further into the woods; the soldiers of the Second West India Regiment, were also engaged, and had several men killed and wounded. Colonel Graham was severely wounded on this occasion\*.

The out-posts being frequently alarmed by parties of the enemy firing at the sentries in the night, a serjeant and twelve Highlanders, under Lieutenant David Stewart, penetrated the woods at nine o'clock in the evening, with short swords, to cut their way through the underwood, to discover the post or camp from whence these nightly alarms came. After traversing the woods all night, an open spot, with a sentry, was discovered; this man fired his musket at a dog which accompanied the soldiers, and then plunged into the wood, as the serjeant rushed forward to cut him down. The soldiers were on the edge of a perpendicular precipice of great depth, at the bottom of which was seen a small valley crowded with huts, from whence issued swarms of people, on hearing the

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\* The surgeons being all in the woods with different detachments, Colonel Graham's wounds were attended to by the soldier's wife alluded to in the preceding note.

1796 report of their sentry's musket. Having made this discovery, the soldiers commenced their journey back ; but when about half way, they were assailed by a fire of musketry on both flanks, and in the rear. The Caribbees were expert climbers: every tree appeared to be manned in an instant; the wood was in a blaze, but not a man could be seen,—the enemy being concealed by the thick and luxuriant foliage. As the Highlanders retreated, firing from time to time at the spot from whence the enemy's fire proceeded, the Caribbees followed with as much rapidity as if they had sprung from tree to tree like monkeys. In this manner the retreat was continued, until the men got clear of the woods. The Highlanders were met by a party of the Second West India Regiment, sent to their support, under Lieutenant Towes, who was wounded. The loss on this occasion was six men killed, and eight wounded, belonging to both corps.

This desultory warfare was continued until September, when the Caribbees were forced to submit, and they were afterwards removed from the island.

The commander-in-chief proceeding to England, the temporary command of the troops devolved on Major-General Charles Graham, who was this year removed from the lieut.-colonelcy of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS to the colonelcy of the Fifth West India Regiment. Major James Stewart succeeded to the lieut.-colonelcy of the FORTY-SECOND, and Captain Stirling to the commission of major.

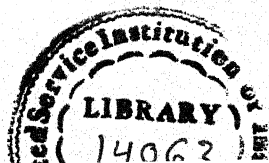
1797 Early in 1797, Sir Ralph Abercromby returned from England, and assembling a small force, captured the island of Trinidad. Encouraged by this success, and by intelligence of the state of *Porto Rico*, he resolved to make an attempt on that island, and the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS were withdrawn from St. Vin-

cent, to take part in the enterprise. A landing was 1797 effected, with slight opposition, in April; but the town and castle were found so strongly fortified, and almost inaccessible, that the expedition was deemed too weak for the capture of the place, and the troops returned on board the fleet,—the five companies of the FORTY-SECOND proceeding to Martinique.

Orders were soon afterwards received for the return of the five companies to England in as complete a state as possible; and the Seventy-ninth Highlanders were permitted to volunteer to the FORTY-SECOND, when a greater number of transfers were received than the casualties of the two preceding years amounted to, and the five companies embarked complete in numbers and free of illness. On arriving at Portsmouth on the 30th of July, a return was sent on shore; it was sent back, with directions to correct the error of omitting the number of sick, when an answer was sent, that the five companies had arrived from the West Indies with every man in health, and not one left behind.

After landing at Portsmouth, the five companies proceeded to Hilsea, where they remained a few weeks, and then embarked for Gibraltar, to join the five companies which had proceeded thither in the beginning of 1796.

The regiment was united at Gibraltar; it mustered 1798 upwards of eleven hundred men, and presented a splendid appearance on parade. In the autumn of 1798, it was selected to form part of an expedition, under Lieutenant-General Hon. Sir Charles Stewart, against *Minorca*, the second of the Balearic islands, situate in the Mediterranean, near the coast of Spain. This island had fallen successively under the Carthaginians, Romans, Vandals, Moors, Arragonese, and Castilians; it was captured by the British in 1708,



1798 and ceded to England by the treaty of Utrecht in 1713; it was again taken by the Spaniards in 1782, after an obstinate defence of seven months, and was retained by Spain under the Treaty of Peace in the year 1783. Spain had, however, become united with France in the war against the liberties of Europe, and the FORTY-SECOND embarked from Gibraltar on the 24th of October, to take part in depriving the Spanish monarchy of this valuable island. A landing was effected in the early part of November: the first division, of eight hundred men, repulsed the attack of two thousand of the enemy, and the British advanced upon Ciudadella, the capital. After overcoming many difficulties from the state of the roads, and from the strong stone inclosures in a mountainous country, the troops arrived before Ciudadella, where the Spanish commander had concentrated his forces, and he possessed a great superiority of numbers over the four British regiments which had invaded the island. The English general placed his troops on the little eminences surrounding the place, leaving only a few light infantry in the valleys, and causing numerous fires to be kept burning during the night,—the fires in the valleys being more numerous than on the hills, where the troops were posted. By this stratagem the Spanish garrison was impressed with a belief that the place was invested by ten thousand men, and that resistance would be useless; they therefore surrendered on the following day, when the prisoners were more numerous than the invading army.

1799 At the island of Minorca, which is diversified with elevated grounds and valleys, and in some places rich in vegetation, and abounding with the necessaries, and many of the luxuries of life, the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS were stationed during the year 1799.

1800 In the mean time the republican arms of France

had triumphed over continental opposition in Europe, 1800 and General Bonaparte had led a chosen body of veteran troops, which he called the "Army of the East," into Asia, and had established French domination in Egypt. Great Britain, however, continued to brave the power of the enemy, and in the summer of 1800 an army was assembled at Minorca, under General Sir Ralph Abercromby, to carry on the war in Italy, or otherwise, as might appear most advantageous to the country. The FORTY-SECOND Highlanders were relieved from garrison duty\*, and ordered to embark for the relief of *Genoa*, then besieged by the French; but this place surrendered, and no advantage appearing to be likely to result from landing in Italy, the troops returned to Minorca. In August, the regiment again embarked, and sailed to Gibraltar, from whence it proceeded with the expedition against *Cadiz*, and was in the boats ready to land on the Spanish coast, when the debarkation was countermanded, in consequence of a pestilential disease raging with great violence in the city at the time. The troops afterwards returned to Gibraltar, and orders were received to proceed to Egypt, to expel the French "Army of the East" from that country. From Gibraltar the armament sailed to the island of Malta, where the men were landed to refresh themselves,

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\* Letter from Lieutenant-General Fox, Commanding at Minorca.

"Sir,

"Port Mahon, 30th July, 1800.

"As senior officer of the old garrison, I must beg of you to take some opportunity of communicating to the FORTY-SECOND ROYAL HIGHLANDERS the regret I feel at their departure, and how sensible I am of their merit in every respect, by their excellent discipline, orderly conduct, and the constant zeal they have shown to forward every part of His Majesty's service, while under my command.

"I am, &c.,

"To Brigadier-General Stewart.

"H. E. Fox."

1800 after having been many months at sea; and the abundance of the fresh provisions which the island afforded, with the comforts of the beautiful city of La Valette, soon restored and reanimated the troops.

From Malta the armament proceeded to the bay of Marmorice, in Asiatic Turkey, where the fleet cast anchor in an immense basin of water, surrounded by lofty mountains covered to their summits with majestic forest-trees clothed with luxuriant foliage.

1801 In this bay the armament remained a short time to procure Turkish horses for the cavalry, and to insure the co-operation of a force under the Captain Pacha, and in February, 1801, it again put to sea. As the fleet issued from the bay, and directed its course towards the shores of Egypt, it presented a magnificent spectacle: the greatness of the armament, containing the disposable force of England, and its destiny affecting the dearest interests of the country, was a scene calculated to excite impressive reflections. On the 1st of March it appeared off Alexandria, the ancient capital of Egypt, and bore down at sunset into the bay of Aboukir. The FORTY-SECOND Royal Highlanders formed part of the reserve, under Major-General (afterwards Sir John) Moore; they were commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel William Dickson, and selected to form part of the force to effect a landing on the shore, in the face of the formidable opposition prepared by the French to resist the debarkation.

On the morning of the 8th of March, 1801, a rocket gave the signal for one hundred and fifty boats, laden with five thousand men, to approach the shore, and the next moment the deep murmur of a thousand oars was heard urging forward the flower of a brave army, to engage in an enterprise of a most arduous character. As they approached the shore, the French assailed them with a tempest of bullets,

which cut the surface of the water into deep furrows, 1801 and sank several of the boats. Yet pressing onward with redoubled ardour, the undaunted Britons gained the shore, and instantly leaping out of the boats, rushed forward to combat their numerous antagonists. The FORTY-SECOND, and other regiments on the right, soon got under the elevated positions of the batteries, so as to be sheltered from their fire. The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS leaped on shore, formed on the beach, and rushing up the steep ascent rendered difficult by loose sand, in the face of the fire of a battalion of infantry and two guns, speedily gained the summit, and instantly closing on their numerous opponents with the bayonet, drove them from their position before they had time to fire a second volley. Scarcely had the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS driven back the French infantry, when a squadron of cavalry galloped forward to charge them; but it was immediately repulsed with the loss of its commanding officer. The French, who had fled from their guns, rallied and formed in the rear of a second line of sand-hills, from whence they maintained a scattered fire, until they were driven from thence, and the British stood triumphant on the field of battle, having achieved a victory almost without parallel in the annals of war, and fully proved the great value of firm resolution and strict discipline.

The FORTY-SECOND Regiment had thirty-one rank and file killed: Lieutenant-Colonel James Stewart, Captain Charles Mc Quarrie, Lieutenants Alexander Campbell, John Dick, Frederick Campbell, Stewart Campbell, and Charles Campbell, Ensign Wilson, seven serjeants, four drummers, and one hundred and forty rank and file wounded. This loss was sustained while in the boats, and ascending the heights; when once the Highlanders could close on their antagonists.

1801 with the bayonet, no further loss worth mentioning was sustained\*.

Having, by this victory, proudly asserted the superiority of the national military character of Britons, in situations uncommonly arduous and under circumstances of peculiar difficulty, the victorious troops advanced three miles towards Alexandria, and preparations were made to accomplish the object of the expedition with lively anticipations of success. The necessary stores being landed, the army advanced through deep sand, which retarded the progress so much, that the men with difficulty marched a mile in an hour: their courage was, however, not abated by difficulty. On the 12th of March they advanced to *Mandora Tower*, and on the 13th marched through a wood of palm and date trees, to attack the French troops occupying a formidable position on a range of heights in front. Some sharp fighting occurred, in which the Ninetieth, or Perthshire Regiment, highly distinguished itself, and the French were forced to retreat to their fortified lines in front of Alexandria. The British advanced within range of the lines, and evinced great firmness under a heavy cannonade, while Sir Ralph Abercromby reconnoitred the position, and afterwards encamped a short distance in the rear.

The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS were not engaged on this occasion; but they were exposed to a distant cannonade, and had three rank and file killed; Lieutenant-Colonel Dickson, Captain Archibald Argyle Campbell, Lieutenant Simon Fraser, three serjeants,

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\* As the soldiers were burying a Highlander, who was supposed to be dead, Captain David Stewart of Garth requested them to take him out of the grave, and carry him to the surgeon; he soon recovered of a swoon, his wound was cured, and he resumed his duty shortly afterwards.



one drummer, and twenty-three rank and file 1801 wounded.

Having gained a second victory on the shores of Egypt, the army took up a position about four miles from *Alexandria*, having a sandy plain in front, the sea on the right, and the canal of Alexandria and the lake of Aboukir on the left. The FORTY-SECOND were posted, with the other regiments of the reserve under Major-General Moore, on very high ground projecting a quarter of a mile on the right, and extending to the large and magnificent ruins of a palace, built in the time of the Romans, within fifty yards of the sea. This high ground of sand-hills and old ruins, was about three hundred yards broad; it sloped gradually down into a valley, which lay between it and the other parts of the position. The Fifty-eighth Regiment occupied the ruins, and the Twenty-eighth a redoubt near them; the Twenty-third and FORTY-SECOND, with the flank companies of the Fortieth, and the Corsican Rangers, were placed a short distance behind the ruins and the redoubt: the other corps of the army extending to the canal. The French occupied a parallel position on a high and almost perpendicular ridge of hills; in the centre of their line rose, with deceitful grandeur, Fort Crétin—in the left of its rear appeared Fort Caffarelli,—Pompey's Pillar on its right,—Cleopatra's Needle on the left, and the city of Alexandria extending to the sea, with the masts of the shipping in the harbour seen at the back of the town. The whole presented a most interesting appearance; objects celebrated in history, even some of the wonders of the world, could be distinctly seen, and the ruins under the soldiers' feet were of interesting antiquity.

For seven days the army occupied this position without interruption; the soldiers being under arms every morning at three o'clock, and working parties

1801 being afterwards employed in strengthening the post. During this period the French troops at Alexandria had been reinforced from Cairo, and General Menou prepared to attack the British line.

At three o'clock on the morning of the memorable 21st of March, the army was under arms in the dark, when all was quiet along the front; half an hour afterwards the fire of musketry and artillery on the left announced the approach of adverse forces, and every eye was directed in anxious expectation towards the gloomy atmosphere which concealed the approach of the enemy. Suddenly loud shouts were heard in front of the right, the piquets were rapidly driven in, followed by the sound of a trampling multitude rushing to battle. At this moment the Twenty-eighth Regiment was ordered into the redoubt on the left of the ruins of the palace of the Ptolemies,—the left wing of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS advanced, under Major Stirling, and took post on the open ground quitted by the Twenty-eighth, and the right wing of the regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart, formed two hundred yards in the rear of the left wing. In an instant the ruins, redoubt, and left wing of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS, were attacked by the enemy with great impetuosity; but the steady and well-directed fire of the British regiments forced their assailants to retire.

While the front was thus engaged, a column of Bonaparte's "Invincible Legion" advanced, preceded by a six-pounder gun, silently along the interval between the left of the FORTY-SECOND and the right of the Foot Guards, from which the cavalry piquet had retired, and calculating its distance correctly, although in the dark, it wheeled to its left, and penetrated unobserved between the wings of the FORTY-SECOND Regiment drawn up in parallel lines. The

instant this column was seen, the right wing of the 1801 ROYAL HIGHLANDERS attacked its front with great gallantry, and captured the gun,—the rear rank of the left wing faced about and attacked too its rear, and the French being thus placed between two fires, rushed towards the ruins of the ancient palace,—receiving the fire of the Twenty-eighth as they passed the redoubt, of the grenadiers and light infantry of the Fortieth as they passed the ground occupied by these companies, and being pursued in full career by the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS. As the French entered the ruins, two companies of the Fifty-eighth wheeled back, and after firing a few rounds of musketry, charged with the bayonet. Being thus attacked in front and on the flanks, and pursued by the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS, who closed with bayonets on the rear, the “Invincible Legion” resisted until six hundred and fifty of their number had fallen, when the survivors, about two hundred and fifty in number, threw down their arms and surrendered, delivering up their standard to Major Stirling of the FORTY-SECOND, who gave it in charge of a serjeant, with directions to remain close to the gun which the regiment had taken from the enemy.

This column of the enemy being thus disposed of, the FORTY-SECOND instantly issued from among the ruins, and formed line in battalion on the flat, with their right supported by the redoubt; but at that moment the French infantry pressed forward so rapidly, that Major-General Moore ordered the regiment forward before its formation was completed, when SIR RALPH ABERCROMBY, who was on the spot, encouraging the troops, called out “My brave Highlanders, remember your country, remember your forefathers!” and the regiment rushed forward with heroic ardour, drove back the French, and pursued them along the sandy plain. Major-General Moore, who had the

1801 advantage of a keen penetrating eye, saw through the increasing clearness of the atmosphere, fresh columns of the enemy, with three squadrons of cavalry prepared to charge through the intervals of the retreating infantry, and instantly calling to the FORTY-SECOND to cease pursuing, directed them to resume their former ground to resist the charge of cavalry. This order to fall back to the redoubt, was repeated by Lieutenant-Colonel Stirling, but it was only partially heard by the regiment, owing to the noise from the firing; the companies which heard it fell back, and the others remained in advance. While in this broken state, the regiment was charged by the French horsemen, who dashed forward with great audacity, as to an assured victory; but the gallant Highlanders stood firm, and their fire thinned the enemy's ranks in the advance. All the companies which were formed repulsed the dragoons with loss; the other companies were broken, yet the Highlanders individually, or in small groups, maintained a fierce contest with the dragoons, and a number of single combats took place, in which the soldiers of the FORTY-SECOND displayed great courage and activity\*. The French dragoons who had penetrated the broken companies, or passed through the intervals, turned to their left towards the ruins of the old Roman palace, as the column of infantry had done early in the morning, and were nearly annihilated by the fire of the Twenty-eighth Regiment. In this charge, the serjeant of the FORTY-

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\* In Lieutenant-General SIR ROBERT WILSON'S *History of the Expedition to Egypt*, it is stated, "The French cavalry charged *en masse*, and overwhelmed the FORTY-SECOND; yet, though broken, "this gallant corps was not defeated; individually it resisted, and "the conduct of each man exalted still more the high character of "the regiment." Vol i., page 50.

SECOND who had the captured French colour in his 1801 care, was rode over and stunned by the dragoons: when he recovered, the standard was gone, and he could give no further account of it\*.

General SIR RALPH ABERCROMBY had despatched his aides-de-camp with orders to the different brigades, and was alone near the ruins, when the French cavalry penetrated to the rear of the redoubt; he was attacked by two dragoons, when a corporal of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS ran to his assistance and shot one of the assailants; the other dragoon rode off, but was encountered and bayoneted by a soldier of the FORTY-SECOND Regiment.

Scarcely had the FORTY-SECOND time to recover their formation, after the destruction of the first body of French dragoons, when they were required to oppose the attack of another column of infantry supported by cavalry: they met their advancing opponents with firmness, repulsed them with great gallantry, and drove them to the rear. While the ranks of the regiment were in some disorder from this fight, it was charged by another body of French cavalry, when the steady aim of the Highlanders again emptied a number of saddles, and, although the ranks were afterwards penetrated by the dragoons, yet the Highland soldiers fought manfully, and the enemy gained little advantage. Astonished and confounded at this determined resistance, some of the dragoons galloped forward, and were destroyed by the fire of the Twenty-eighth Regiment; others continued to fight with the FORTY-SECOND: it was a severe trial of personal firmness and

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\* The standard of the "Invincible Legion" was afterwards recovered from the French by Private Anthony Lutz, of the Minorca regiment in the British service; it was sent to England, and placed in the Royal Military Chapel, Whitehall, London.

1801 individual courage to the Highlanders, each man fighting on his own ground, and fronting his antagonist whichever way he presented himself, and maintaining his post so long as strength or life remained. From these reiterated attacks the regiment had suffered severely, and it was evident, that, if not supported, it must soon be annihilated; but at a critical period Brigadier-General Stuart brought forward the foreign brigade from the second line; the enemy was driven back with severe loss; and another attack was speedily repulsed. This occurred about eight o'clock in the morning.

The British troops which had been so fiercely engaged, had expended their ammunition, and while a supply was being procured from the ordnance stores at a distance, their fire ceased; while that of the enemy was continued with great execution, which put to a severe test the patient endurance of the FORTY-SECOND, who suffered severely. When a supply of ammunition arrived, the enemy retreated, and the action terminated. This narrative only refers to the fighting on the right, where the FORTY-SECOND had been engaged. The enemy's attacks had been repulsed at every part of the field, with a constancy and valour which redounded to the honor of the British troops; but the splendour of the victory was clouded by the loss of General SIR RALPH ABERCROMBY, who was wounded early in the action, and died a few days afterwards, universally regretted by the officers and soldiers of the army.

The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS had Brevet-Major Robert Bisset, Lieutenants Colin Campbell, Robert Anderson, Alexander Stewart, Alexander Donaldson, and Archibald Mc Nicol, forty-eight rank and file killed; Major James Stirling, Captain David Stewart, Lieutenants Hamilton Rose, J. Milford, J. Sutherland,



FORTY-SECOND ROYAL HIGHLAND REGIMENT.  
Rescue of General Sir Ralph Abercrombie at the Battle of Alexandria on the 21st March, 1801.





A. M. Cunningham, Frederick Campbell, and 1801 Maxwell Grant, Ensign William McKenzie, six serjeants, and two hundred and forty-seven rank and file wounded.

The ground on which the regiment had been so fiercely engaged, was covered with men and horses, giving incontestable proof of the prowess evinced by the Highlanders in this arena. The conduct of the regiment on this occasion, has been highly commended by historians. In the general orders of Major-General (afterwards Lord) Hutchinson, who succeeded Sir Ralph Abercromby in the command of the army, it was stated—"The Twenty-eighth and "FORTY-SECOND Regiments made the noblest stand "against a superior force:" and in the public despatch of the same officer,—“The Twenty-eighth and "FORTY-SECOND Regiments acted in the most distinguished and brilliant manner."

The prowess and military energy which won the battle of the 21st of March, prepared the way for additional triumphs. A body of troops traversed the country to the city of Rosetta, situate near the mouth of one of the great channels of the Nile, and captured that place, and the fort of St. Julian. Additional forces followed, a body of Turks co-operated, and the troops advanced up the banks of the Nile, drove the French from the post at El Aft, and obliged them to quit the fortified position of Rahmanie, and to retire through the desert to the city of Cairo, the metropolis of modern Egypt: towards which place the British and Turks directed their march.

In the mean time the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS had formed part of the blockading force before the city of Alexandria, where they remained until the beginning of June, when they received orders to proceed, with the Twenty-eighth Foot, up the country; and after

1801 a march of fourteen days along the banks of the Nile, the two regiments joined the army before *Cairo*, on the 16th of June, under the orders of Major-General Hope and Brigadier-General Oakes. After the arrival of this reinforcement, the fortress was invested, and preparations made to commence the siege; but on the morning of the 22nd of June, the French General, Belliard, sent out a flag of truce, and agreed to surrender the place, on condition of himself and garrison being sent to France. The capture of the capital of Egypt added lustre to the British arms, and the troops were encouraged and stimulated to persevere in their gallant efforts, by receiving the approbation of their Sovereign and the thanks of Parliament.

From *Cairo* the army retired down the Nile, and proceeded to the vicinity of *Alexandria*, and arrangements were made to commence the siege of this city, which was occupied by General Menou and a formidable garrison. Considerable progress had been made, and the capture of the place by force of arms would speedily have taken place; but this was prevented by the surrender of the garrison in the beginning of September.

Thus was accomplished the deliverance of Egypt from the power of France, and the valour and perseverance of the troops which had achieved this important success, were admired and applauded by the nations of Europe, who had witnessed with anxiety the progress of this important struggle, and when the boasted "Invincible" veterans of France were overpowered, prospects of liberty were opened to other countries in bondage. The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS, and other corps which had forced the French "Army of the East" to evacuate Egypt, and had exalted the military fame of their country, were rewarded by King George III. with the honor of

bearing the "SPHYNX," with the word "EGYPT," 1801 on their colours, "as a lasting memorial of the glory acquired by His Majesty's arms, by the zeal, discipline, and intrepidity of the troops engaged in "that arduous and important campaign."

To perpetuate the services rendered to the Ottoman empire, the Grand Seignior established an order of Knighthood, which he conferred on the general officers. He also presented large gold medals to the field officers, and others of a smaller size to the captains and subalterns, which King George III. authorized them to accept; the Grand Seignior also built a palace at Constantinople for the future residence of the British ambassadors.

List of the officers of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS who received medals for the campaign in Egypt.

*Lieut.-Colonels.*

\*William Dickson      \*James Stewart.

*Majors.*

\*James Stirling      Alexander Stewart.

*Captains.*

*David Stewart	Charles Munro	James Muter
John Farquharson	Colin Lamont	*Arch. A. Campbell
*Charles Mc Quarrie.		

*Lieutenants.*

Robert Campbell	Alex. Donaldson	*Hamilton Rose
*Simon Fraser	*John Dick	*James Sutherland
Arch. Mc Nicol	*Maxwell Grant	*John Mc Dermid
*Alex. Campbell	*Fred. Campbell	*Alex. Cunningham
*Stewart Campbell	*Charles Campbell	James Walker.

*Ensigns.*

Robert Menzies	*Mungo Mc Pherson	*William Mc Kenzie
Thomas Hillas	*Adam Wilson.	

*Adjutant, Simon Fraser; Surgeon, John Erly.*

After the deliverance of Egypt, the FORTY-SECOND 1802 were directed to embark for England, where they

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\* The officers whose names are marked thus \* were wounded.

1802 arrived in the beginning of 1802; they landed at Southampton, and marched to Winchester\*, experiencing an enthusiastic reception and applause for their gallantry in Egypt.

At Winchester Captain Lamont and several men died of a fever supposed to be caught on duty over French prisoners.

In May the regiment was reviewed at Ashford, by His Majesty, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and Duke of York. The King expressed his royal approbation of the appearance of the corps. Soon after this review the regiment marched to Edinburgh, and its reception at

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\* Soon after the arrival of the regiment at Winchester, the following document was received by the commanding officer:—

“ At a general meeting of the HIGHLAND SOCIETY of Scotland, on the 12th January, 1802, when upwards of one hundred noblemen and gentlemen were present, the EARL OF EGLINTON, Vice-President, in the chair,

“ RESOLVED unanimously, and with the greatest applause, to vote the thanks of this Society to the British army in Egypt, for their gallant achievements, in which our countrymen, the Highland Regiments, maintained, in so conspicuous a manner, the warlike character of their ancestors, and more especially to that old and long-distinguished corps, the FORTY-SECOND, or ROYAL HIGHLAND Regiment, and recommended to the Secretary to transmit this resolution to the commanding officer, in order to be communicated to the regiment, in such manner as to him shall seem proper.”

Lieutenant-Colonel Dickson inserted this vote in regimental orders, with directions for it to be read to each company, and added, “ he felt himself highly flattered by the distinguished mark of approbation bestowed upon the officers and soldiers of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS, by their countrymen, for their brave and gallant behaviour in Egypt, which they so justly have merited, and is confident, whenever an opportunity may again occur, they will be equally conspicuous in maintaining that national character of bravery, hitherto experienced by their enemies, and which they so gloriously evinced in their late campaign in Egypt.”

the several towns, through which it passed, was of a 1802 flattering and gratifying character.

In the mean time, the triumphs of the British arms in Egypt had been followed by a treaty of peace, concluded at Amiens, and the regiment was placed upon a peace establishment.

New colours having been prepared, bearing the distinctions granted to the regiment for its services in Egypt, they were presented to the corps, on parade, at Edinburgh, on the 1st of December, when the following address was delivered by Lieutenant-General Vyse.

“Colonel Dickson, and gentlemen of the FORTY-SECOND Regiment; Having the honor of commanding His Majesty’s forces in North Britain, it would ill become my situation for me to be a silent spectator of this interesting ceremony.

“Brother soldiers of the FORTY-SECOND Regiment, let me earnestly exhort you, most sincerely to reflect on the invaluable deposit which is now committed to your protection, and which is rendered doubly sacred by the solemn benediction of this reverend minister, Principal Baird, of our holy faith.

“Remember that the standards which you have this day received, are not only revered by an admiring world, as the honorable monuments and trophies of your former heroism, but are likewise regarded by a grateful country, as the sacred pledges of that security, which, under the protection of Heaven, it may expect from your future services.

“May you long, very long, live to enjoy that reputation, and those honors, which you have so highly and so justly merited; may you long participate and share in all the blessings of that tranquillity and peace which your labours, and your arms, have restored to your native country; but should

1802 "the restless ambition of an envious and daring enemy, again call you to the field, think then that you behold the spirit of those brave comrades who so nobly, in their country's cause, fell upon the plains of Egypt, hovering round these standards;—think that you see the venerable shade of the immortal Abercromby leading you again to action, and pointing to that presumptuous band whose arrogance has been humbled, and whose vanity has been compelled, by your intrepidity and courage, to confess, that *no human force has been 'invincible' against British valour*, when directed by wisdom, conducted by discipline, and inspired by virtue."

1803 The treaty of Amiens proved like the calm which precedes a storm; and the short respite from war ceded by its stipulations, was followed by a mighty struggle which convulsed every state in Christendom. The British people appeared as a barrier to the schemes of aggrandizement entertained by Napoleon Bonaparte, first consul of France, and one of his first objects was to crush a nation which was ever ready to oppose his progress of usurpation. War was resumed in the spring of 1803, and a French army was assembled at Boulogne for the invasion of England. The establishment of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS was immediately augmented, and the regiment was ordered to proceed to the south of England, to be in readiness to oppose the threatened invasion. It embarked from Leith on the 31st of May\*, and landing at Harwich, marched to the camp at Weely, in Essex.

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"*Edinburgh, 29th May, 1803.*

"GENERAL ORDER.

"The FORTY-SECOND Regiment will embark at Leith, for South Britain, on Tuesday morning the 31st instant. To his sincerest

At this period a *second battalion* was added to the 1803 regiment, and was composed of men raised, under the "Army of Reserve Act," in the counties of Perth, Elgin, Nairn, Cromarty, Ross, Sutherland, Caithness, Argyle, and Bute: it was placed on the establishment from the 9th July, 1803.

In November, 1804, the second battalion embarked 1804 at Fort George, to join the first battalion at Weely Barracks, in Essex; and the two battalions remained at that place, in readiness to oppose the French army, had it ventured to land on the British coast: but Bonaparte was deterred from carrying his threat into execution by the noble attitude assumed by the British nation, and the strength and energy it evinced, while breathing defiance to the gigantic military power by which it was menaced.

After having been advanced to the dignity of 1805 Emperor, crowned King of Italy, and having added Genoa to his dominions, Bonaparte reviewed his army at Boulogne in 1805, and immediately afterwards marched for Germany, to crush the coalition forming against his interests.

In September of this year the first battalion marched from Weely Barracks to Portsmouth, where it embarked for Gibraltar, to relieve one of the regiments in garrison at that fortress.

On the decease of General Sir Hector Munro, the 1806 colonelcy of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS was conferred on Major-General the Marquis of Huntly, from the Ninety-second Regiment, by commission dated the 3rd of January, 1806.

The first battalion continued to form part of the 1807

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"wishes for its happiness and glory, Lieutenant-General Vyse hopes,  
"that it will soon return to its native country, with an addition to  
"those laurels by which it is now so honorably distinguished."

1808 garrison of Gibraltar until the summer of 1808. During this period Napoleon had reduced Germany to submission to his inexorable will,—forced Russia to accede to his decrees,—placed his brother Joseph on the throne of Spain, supported by a numerous French army,—and had obliged the royal family of Portugal to take refuge in the Brazils, while a French army seized on the country. Great Britain continued to wage determined hostility to the immense power which thus established a military despotism over so many of the states of Europe, and sent an army to aid the Spanish and Portuguese patriots who rose in arms against the usurper: the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS were also withdrawn from Gibraltar to take part in the contest.

On the 14th of August, 1808, the first battalion embarked from Gibraltar, to join the troops which had landed in Portugal, under Lieutenant-General Sir Arthur Wellesley; while the regiment was at sea the French forces were attacked at Roleia, with complete success, on the 17th of August, and defeated at Vimiera, on the 21st, which was followed by the enemy evacuating all the towns, forts, and arsenals of Portugal, on condition of being conveyed to France. About the period of the conclusion of the convention of Cintra, the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS arrived in Portugal, and after the departure of the French, the regiment remained in that country, under General Sir John Moore.

Portugal being thus delivered by British skill and valour, Sir John Moore received orders to advance into Spain, and a body of troops was sent from the United Kingdom to join him in that country. The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS were selected to take part in this enterprise; they were formed in brigade with the Fourth and Twenty-eighth Regiments, under Major-



General Lord William Bentinck, and advanced into 1808 Spain with the division under Lieutenant-General Hope. Before the British could arrive at the scene of operations, the Spanish force, which was to have co-operated with them, had been defeated and dispersed, and Sir John Moore found himself in the heart of Spain, with between twenty and thirty thousand British troops, to confront Napoleon, who had three hundred thousand men in that country. With that intrepidity which marked his character, the British general advanced against the numerous legions of the enemy, and produced a diversion favourable to the Spanish cause; and when Napoleon directed an overwhelming force against him, Sir John Moore made a skilful and rapid retreat towards the coast. The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS shared in the privations consequent upon a retrograde movement continued for a distance of two hundred and fifty miles, along roads covered with snow, over mountains and rivers, and through narrow defiles, with a numerous enemy following in full career, and frequently skirmishing with the rear-guard. The native energy and resolution of the troops were conspicuous, and on the 11th of January, 1809, the war-worn soldiers arrived at *Corunna*, where 1809 they obtained shelter and a short repose, while they awaited the arrival of shipping to transport them to England. A French army under Marshal Soult approaching, the British took up a position on an inferior range of heights in front of *Corunna*, and the FORTY-SECOND were in Lieutenant-General Sir David Baird's division, and were posted near the village of *Elvina*: the army mustering fourteen thousand five hundred men.

Twenty thousand French troops assembled on the opposite hills, and soon after mid-day on the 16th of January, they were seen preparing for battle. About

1809 two in the afternoon a heavy battery opened its fire; three columns of attack covered by skirmishers descended the mountains; the first column carried the village of Elvina, then dividing, attempted to turn the right of Sir David Baird's division, and to break its front; at the same time the second column advanced against the centre; and the third attacked the left. The brunt of the battle on the right was sustained by the Fourth, FORTY-SECOND, and Fiftieth regiments, under Major-General Lord William Bentinck; and this brigade resisted the furious onset of the enemy with a resolution and energy which proved the unconquerable spirit and excellent discipline of the three regiments. The Fourth met that part of the French column which attempted to turn the right flank by the valley; and the FORTY-SECOND and Fiftieth encountered the battalions breaking through Elvina. The ground round the village was intersected by stone walls and hollow roads, and a severe combat ensued. Sir John Moore was on the spot, and as the FORTY-SECOND advanced to meet the enemy, he called out, "Highlanders, remember Egypt!" The sound of the voice of the general officer, under whose command they had conquered at Alexandria, animated the soldiers, and they rushed forward, overpowering all opposition; the Fiftieth Regiment, entering Elvina with the retreating enemy, re-captured the village. The general applauded this brilliant success, and ordered up a battalion of Foot Guards, to fill the void in the line occasioned by the advance of the two regiments, when the light infantry, and two or three other companies, of the FORTY-SECOND, who had expended their ammunition, mistook his intention and retired, thinking they were to be relieved by the Foot Guards. At that moment the enemy, being reinforced, renewed the fight beyond the village, the

commanding officer of the Fiftieth was wounded and 1809 taken prisoner, and Elvina became the scene of another struggle. General Sir John Moore, observing this, turned to the companies of the regiment which had retired, and said, "My brave Forty-second, join your comrades, ammunition is coming, and you have your bayonets." At the well-known voice of their general, the Highlanders instantly sprang forward, and closed upon the enemy with bayonets. About this period Sir David Baird was wounded, and forced to quit the field, and soon afterwards Sir John Moore was struck to the ground by a cannon ball: he was raised up, his eyes were steadily fixed on the Highlanders, who were contending manfully with their numerous antagonists, and when he was assured that the FORTY-SECOND were victorious, his countenance brightened up, he expressed his satisfaction, and was removed to the rear, where he expired, to the great regret of the officers and soldiers, who admired and esteemed their excellent commander. The French were repulsed at every point, and they withdrew from the contest with a considerable diminution of their superior numbers. The British were triumphant, and they had proved, that, although incessant toil, loss of repose and food, and exposure to inclement weather, might diminish their physical powers, yet their innate bravery remained in its full vigour.

After the battle the army embarked and sailed for England.

In general orders issued on the 18th of January, Lieutenant-General Hope congratulated the army on the victory, and added,—“On no occasion has the “undaunted valour of British troops been more manifest. At the termination of a severe and harassing “march, rendered necessary by the superiority which “the enemy had acquired, and which had materially

1809 "impaired the efficiency of the troops, many disadvantages were to be encountered.

"These have all been surmounted by the conduct of the troops themselves; and the enemy has been taught, that whatever advantages of position or numbers he may employ, there is inherent, in British officers and soldiers, a bravery that knows not how to yield,—that no circumstances can appal, —and that will insure victory when it is to be obtained by the exertion of any human means.

"The lieutenant-general has the greatest satisfaction in distinguishing such meritorious services as came within his observation, or have been brought to his knowledge.

"His acknowledgements are in a peculiar manner due to Lieutenant-General Lord William Bentinck, and *the brigade under his command, consisting of the Fourth, FORTY-SECOND, and Fiftieth Regiments, which sustained the weight of the attack.*"

In an interesting account of the battle, addressed by Lieutenant-General Hope, to Sir David Baird, it is stated,—“The first effort of the enemy was met by the commander of the forces, and by yourself, at the head of the FORTY-SECOND Regiment,” &c.

The regiment had three serjeants, two drummers, and thirty-three rank and file killed at the battle of Corunna; Captain Duncan Campbell died of his wounds; Captains John Fraser and Maxwell Grant; Lieutenants Alexander Anderson, William Middleton, and Duncan McInnes, five serjeants, and one hundred and sixty rank and file wounded. A severe loss was also sustained from the toils and privations of the retreat from the interior of Spain.

To commemorate the gallantry displayed by the regiment on this occasion, the royal authority was afterwards given for the word “CORUNNA” to be

borne on its colours: and its commanding officer, 1809 Lieutenant-Colonel JAMES STIRLING, received a medal.

The regiment landed at Plymouth in February, and Major Campbell died in a few days afterwards of disease produced by fatigue and exposure to inclement weather during the retreat to Corunna.

From Plymouth the regiment marched to Shorncliffe, where it was brigaded with a battalion of the Rifle corps, under Major-General Sir Thomas Graham, who expressed, in a brigade order dated the 13th of May,—“ It is most particularly gratifying “ to Major-General Graham, to have seen, that the “ great attention of the officers of the first battalion “ of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS has been rewarded by “ the rapid recovery of the men, after the fatigues of “ a severe campaign, in which they gloriously supported their distinguished character.”

In the mean time the second battalion, which had been stationed some time in Ireland, had received orders to hold itself in readiness for foreign service; it was joined by one hundred and fifty volunteers from the militia, and embarking from Cork, on the 20th of June, sailed for the capital of Portugal, where it landed on the 4th of July, under the orders of Lieutenant-Colonel ROBERT LORD BLANTYRE. It advanced up the country, joined the army commanded by Lord Wellington, and was some time in position on the Guadiana, where it lost many men from the Guadiana fever, contracted during the stay of the troops on the banks of that river.

During the summer the first battalion was ordered to join an expedition under General the Earl of Chatham, against Holland, the principal object of which was, the destruction of the French arsenals and fleet at Antwerp. The regiment embarked on

1809 this service from Ramsgate, in July, and formed part of the brigade under Brigadier-General Montresor, in the division commanded by Lieutenant-General the Marquis of Huntly. It landed on the island of South Beveland on the 9th of August, and was afterwards stationed there during the siege of Flushing on the island of Walcheren. Some delay occurring in the naval arrangements, the enemy had time to augment the preparations for resistance; at the same time a severe fever broke out among the British troops, and the attack on Antwerp was relinquished. The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS returned to England, and landed at Deal in September.

1810 In the summer of 1810 the first battalion embarked at Ramsgate, for Scotland, and landing at Leith, was afterwards stationed at Musselburgh, many of the men still suffering under the effects of the Walcheren fever.

The second battalion continued with the allied army in Portugal, and was engaged in the operations by which the English commander endeavoured to retard the advance of the superior numbers of the enemy, under Marshal Massena, who boasted he would drive the British into the sea, and plant the eagles of France on the towers of Lisbon. As the French army advanced in full confidence of success, suddenly the rocks of *Busaco* were seen bristling with bayonets and streaming with British colours. The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS were in position on the mountains when that formidable post was attacked by the enemy on the 27th of September, and when the valour of the British troops repulsed the furious onsets of the French veterans, who were driven back with severe loss. The loss of the FORTY-SECOND was limited to two serjeants, one drummer, and three rank and file wounded. Major ROBERT HENRY DICK received a medal for this battle.

Being unable to force the position, the French 1810 commander turned it by a flank movement; and the allied army fell back to the lines of *Torres Vedras*, where a series of works of vast extent, connected with ranges of rocks and mountains, covered the approach to Lisbon, and formed a barrier to the progress of the enemy, which could not be overcome. The FORTY-SECOND were posted in the lines.

The French commander, despairing to accomplish his threat against the English, fell back to Santarem.

For three months the opposing armies confronted 1811 each other a few stages from Lisbon; the enemy's numbers became seriously reduced by sickness, and other causes, his resources were exhausted, and during the night of the 5th of March, 1811, he commenced his retreat towards the frontiers. The British moved forward in pursuit, and in numerous encounters with the enemy's rear-guard gained signal advantages.

The French army crossed the confines of Portugal; the British took up a position near the frontiers, and blockaded Almeida. The French advanced to relieve the blockaded fortress; and on the 3rd of May they attacked the post of *Fuentes d'Onor*. The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS had two soldiers killed on this occasion; Captain Mc Donald, one serjeant, and five rank and file wounded. On the 5th of May the enemy made another attack on the British position, but was repulsed. On this occasion the FORTY-SECOND, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel LORD BLANTYRE, were charged by a body of French cavalry, which they defeated with signal gallantry. Lieutenant-Colonel LORD BLANTYRE received a gold medal: and the word "FUENTES D'ONOR," displayed, by royal authority, on the regimental colour,

1811 commemorates the steady valour of the second battalion on this occasion. Its loss was one serjeant and one private soldier killed; one serjeant and twenty-two rank and file wounded. Major R. H. DICK received a medal for the battle of Fuentes d'Onor, where he commanded a flank battalion.

In the subsequent operations of this campaign, the second battalion took an active part; but was not brought into close contact with the enemy.

During the summer the first battalion was withdrawn from Scotland; it embarked at Leith on the 23rd of August, landed at Gravesend before the end of the month, and proceeded from thence to the barracks at Lewes.

1812 The French commander having left *Ciudad Rodrigo* exposed to an attack, Lord Wellington called his divisions from their winter quarters, and commenced the siege of that fortress early in January, 1812. The second battalion of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS took part in the siege, and had several men killed and wounded on the 14th of January, in repulsing a sortie of the garrison; it also sustained some loss on the 18th of that month. During the night of the 19th of January that fortress was captured by storm.

After this gallant exploit, the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS traversed the country to Spanish Estremadura, and formed part of the covering army during the siege of the strong fortress of Badajoz, which place was captured by storm during the night of the 6th of April.

In the mean time the first battalion had marched from Lewes Barracks, and embarked from Portsmouth for the Peninsula; it landed at Lisbon on the 20th of April, and, on joining the army, received the soldiers of the second battalion who were fit for



duty, which augmented its numbers to eleven hundred and sixty rank and file: the officers, staff, &c., of the second battalion, returning to England to recruit.

The FORTY-SECOND joined Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Graham's division, and advanced with the army upon Salamanca, from which city the French were forced to retire in the middle of June, and the British army took up a position on the heights of St. Christoval, during the siege of the forts in which the enemy had left garrisons. On the reduction of the forts, the French army under Marshal Marmont retired behind the Douro, and the British advanced to the bank of that river. The enemy suddenly passed the stream in the middle of July, and a series of manœuvres followed, in which both commanders displayed great skill and military talent, and on the 22nd of July the opposing armies confronted each other in the vicinity of *Salamanca*. As the French commander was making a display of military tactics, and endeavouring to turn the right of the allied army, his left became separated too far from his centre, when the English general instantly detected the false movement, ordered his divisions forward, and commenced the battle. The French army was speedily broken, overpowered, and chased from the field, with the loss of many officers and soldiers, two eagles, and a number of guns. The loss of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS was limited to a few men wounded. Their commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel JAMES STIRLING, and also Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. DICK, who commanded a flank battalion, received each a gold medal for this battle.

The pursuit of the broken remains of the French army to Valladolid, the advance to Madrid, and the return to Valladolid, are important features in the history of this campaign; and after sharing in these ser-

1812 vices the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS took part in driving the French army, under General Clauzel, up the beautiful valleys of the Pisuerga and Arlanzan rivers to *Burgos*, where a strong castle and its works, inclosing a rugged hill, stood as a bulwark to oppose the progress of the British army in that direction. On the 19th of September the first division crossed the river above the town, and the light infantry battalion of Colonel Stirling's brigade, under Major Somers Cocks, supported by the Portuguese under Brigadier-General Pack, drove the French out-posts from the Hill of *San Michael*, situate three hundred yards from the castle. This hill was defended by a large horn-work, with a hard sloping scarp of twenty-five feet, and a counterscarp ten feet high, but not quite finished. The FORTY-SECOND were ordered to take part in storming this horn-work on the same night. The attack was made soon after dark, the ladders were placed against the work, and the soldiers ascended with great gallantry; but the French were numerous, and prepared; a severe fire was opened on the attacking troops; every man who reached the top of a ladder was instantly bayoneted, and in his fall he knocked down several others; the attack was, therefore, attended with great loss. Major Somers Cocks, however, forced an entrance at the gorge; the FORTY-SECOND rushed into the works, which were immediately captured. The conduct of Major Dick, of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS, was commended in the Marquis of Wellington's public despatch.

The regiment had Lieutenants D. Gregorson and P. Milne, one serjeant, thirty-two rank and file, killed; Captain Donald Williamson died of his wounds; Captains Archibald Menzies and George Davidson; Lieutenants Hugh A. Fraser, and James Stewart; Volunteer John Lane, ten serjeants, one drummer, and one hundred and fifty-three rank and file, wounded.

The siege of the castle was commenced, and the 1812 regiment took part in this service, in which it had Ensign David Cullen killed; Lieutenant Robert McKinnon wounded; and several private soldiers killed and wounded. The concentration of the enemy's forces and the advance of very superior numbers, obliged the British commander to raise the siege and retire to Salamanca, and afterwards to Ciudad Rodrigo. The FORTY-SECOND shared in the fatigues and privations of this retrograde movement, and afterwards took post on the frontiers of Portugal.

Augmented in numbers, improved in organization, 1813 and confident in the superior abilities of its noble leader, the allied army again took the field in May, 1813, and advancing into Spain, commenced an enterprising and brilliant campaign, in which the talents of the British commander had ample scope for exertion. The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS took part in the movements by which the enemy's positions on the Douro, and southward of that river, were turned; when the French fell back upon Valladolid. Following up these advantages, the British divisions pressed forward; the French evacuated Madrid, and retired upon Burgos, but finding themselves unable to stem the torrent of war which poured down upon them with overwhelming violence, they destroyed Burgos castle, and withdrew behind the Ebro, the passage of which river they were prepared to defend. The English commander, however, moved his army through the wild, romantic, mountain scenery towards the sources of the Ebro, crossed that stream beyond the limits of the enemy's lines, and forced the French army to fall back on Vittoria.

On the morning of the 21st of June, the allied army penetrated the valley of *Vittoria*, attacked the positions of the French forces, under Joseph Bonaparte, in front of that city, and gained a decisive victory, capturing the

1813 enemy's artillery and baggage, and afterwards forcing the discomfited legions of Napoleon through the Pyrenean mountains. The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS shared in these brilliant exploits; but did not sustain any loss.

The fortress of St. Sebastian was besieged, Pampeluna was blockaded, and the allied army occupied a position in the Pyrenees.

Marshal Soult having succeeded Joseph Bonaparte in the command of the French army, which was re-organized and reinforced under his directions, advanced on the 25th of July, and attacked the British positions in the *Pyrenees*, with the view of relieving the blockade of Pampeluna. A series of actions in the mountains followed, which were continued for several days; the French obtaining some advantage at the beginning, but ultimately British prowess prevailed, and the enemy was driven back to the confines of France, with severe loss. In this mountain warfare the contending forces evinced firmness and intrepidity, and the valour and constancy of the British troops were eminently conspicuous. On this occasion the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS had an opportunity of earning another honorary inscription for their regimental colours, on which the word "PYRENEES" is displayed, by royal authority, to commemorate their gallantry. Lieutenant-Colonel STIRLING received the addition of a clasp to the medal previously acquired: Lieutenant-Colonel ROBERT MACARA also received a medal.

St. Sebastian was captured in the early part of September; the passage of the Bidassoa was effected on the 7th of October, when the British troops entered France; and on the 31st of October, Pampeluna surrendered, after a blockade of four months. The FORTY-SECOND had one serjeant, one drummer, and twelve rank and file wounded during the period they were before this fortress.

From the lofty Pyrenees, the British looked down 1813 on the well-guarded territories of the great enemy of their country; before them appeared a line of fortifications, on the river *Nivelle*, and stretching from the mountain behind Ainhoe to the sea, which presented a formidable barrier to their advance; but the soldiers who had chased the famed legions of Napoleon from the gates of Lisbon to the boundary of the Spanish dominions, were ready to assault these stupendous works of art, and carry their conquering arms into the interior of France. Conscious of their own prowess, and confident in their great leader, they descended the mountains in the night, forded the river at daylight on the 10th of November, and carried the fortifications by storm, capturing fifty guns and many prisoners. The gallant bearing of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS, on this occasion, is commemorated by the word "NIVELLE," on their regimental colour. Their loss was five private soldiers killed; Captain Mungo McPherson, Lieutenant Kenneth McDougall, one serjeant, and twenty rank and file, wounded. Their commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. MACARA, received the addition of a clasp to his medal; Major WILLIAM COWELL also received a medal for commanding a light infantry battalion.

Following up this career of victory, the allied army crossed the *Nive* on the 9th of December, and attacked the enemy's positions beyond that river with success. The French quitted their intrenched camp at Bayonne, and attacked the British divisions on the following four days, but were repulsed. By their conduct on this occasion, the FORTY-SECOND acquired the honor of bearing the word "NIVE" on their colour; and their commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. MACARA, was rewarded with an additional honorary distinction. Their loss was, Captain George Stewart, Lieutenant

1813 James Stewart, and ten rank and file killed; one serjeant and fifteen rank and file wounded.

1814 After this success, the severity of the weather detained the British troops a few weeks in quarters; but in the middle of February, 1814, active operations were resumed. The FORTY-SECOND shared in the movements of the army, and they were sharply engaged, on the 27th of February, at *Orthes*, where they maintained their high reputation. On this occasion the enemy successfully resisted the repeated efforts of the allies to gain the heights; but the British commander changed the plan of attack, and the result was a brilliant, rapid, and total defeat of the French army. The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS were afterwards rewarded with the royal authority to bear the word "ORTHESE" on their regimental colour, to commemorate their gallantry on this occasion; and the usual honorary distinction was conferred on their commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. MACARA. Major WILLIAM COWELL received a clasp, in addition to his medal for Nivelle, for his conduct at the head of a battalion of light infantry. Their loss was Lieutenant and Adjutant Innes, one serjeant, one drummer, and five rank and file killed; Major William Cowell, Captain James Walker, Lieutenants Duncan Stewart and James Brander, two serjeants, one drummer, and one hundred and forty-three rank and file wounded.

Following the rear of the retreating enemy, the allied army approached the city of *Toulouse*, where the French army occupied a line of formidable intrenchments in the suburbs, and beyond the river Garonne, which Marshal Soult appeared determined to defend. The allies crossed the river on a pontoon bridge, and attacked the enemy's positions on the 10th of April. On this occasion, the FORTY-SECOND, Seventy-ninth, and Ninety-first regiments, commanded by Major-

General Pack, supported by the Thirty-sixth, Thirty-1814 seventh, and Sixty-first Regiments, under Major-General Lambert, attacked and carried a portion of the enemy's lines, and a redoubt, and they established themselves on the heights on which the works were constructed; the French retreating to a redoubt and a fortified farm-house at a short distance. The FORTY-SECOND, and other regiments of their brigade, afterwards advanced along the summit of the heights to attack the works at the farm-house, and two centre redoubts; and as the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS moved forward across the fields, exposed to the destructive fire of the enemy's lines, redoubts, and intrenchments, without firing a shot, the steady and determined bearing of the regiment excited universal admiration: when the soldiers reached the redoubts, they leaped into the trenches with the most heroic bravery, capturing the works at the point of the bayonet. The FORTY-SECOND occupied two redoubts on the left, the Seventy-ninth one on the right, and the Ninety-first were stationed in the rear of the farm-house. In order to regain, if possible, these posts, a strong column of the enemy advanced along a deep road with high banks, which concealed its approach, and made so furious an attack, and with such superior numbers, that the FORTY-SECOND were forced to retire to the farm-house, where they were promptly supported by the Ninety-first; and after a determined effort, the French were driven down the hill with severe loss: many gallant Highlanders also fell in the conflict. The FORTY-SECOND took post in the outward redoubts, the Seventy-ninth in the centre one, and the Ninety-first formed in the farm-yard. Scarcely had the defeated French column arrived in the plain below, when a fresh body of the enemy came rushing up the heights with an impetuosity which threatened to overpower all opposition; but the steady valour of the British regiments



1814 prevailed, and the enemy gave up the attempt, his retreat being hastened by the advance of other portions of the allied army. Being unable to resist the attacks of their opponents, the French withdrew within the town.

The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS gained great honor on this occasion. The British commander stated in his public despatch—"The Thirty-sixth, FORTY-SECOND, "Seventy-ninth, and Sixty-first Regiments lost considerable numbers, and *were highly distinguished throughout the day.*"

The royal authority was afterwards given for the regiment to bear the word "TOULOUSE" on its colours, to commemorate its distinguished gallantry on this occasion; and its commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. MACARA, received a cross and clasp for commanding the regiment in five general engagements; he was also honored with the dignity of Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath.

The loss of the regiment was,—Captain John Swanson, Lieutenant William Gordon, Ensigns John Latta and Donald Mc Cremmen, five serjeants, and seventy-five rank and file killed: Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Robert Macara, K.C.B., Captains James Walker, John Henderson, and Alexander Mc Kenzie, Lieutenants Donald Mc Kenzie, Thomas Munro, Hugh A. Fraser, James Robertson, R. A. Mc Kinnon, Roger Stewart, Robert Gordon, Charles Mc Laren, Alexander Stewart, Alexander Strange, Alexander Innes, Donald Farquharson, James Watson, and William Urquhart, Ensigns Thomas Mc Niven, Colin Walker, James Geddes, Mungo Mc Pherson, and John Malcolm, twelve serjeants, four drummers, and three hundred and ten rank and file wounded. Captain Henderson and Lieutenant Farquharson died of their wounds.

The following extracts from *Reminiscences of a Campaign in 1814*, by JOHN MALCOLM, Esq., late of



the FORTY-SECOND Highlanders, who shared in the 1814 gallant exploits of the regiment, contain so ably written an account of the *Attack on the Heights of Toulouse*, that, in justice to the writer, and to his corps, they are inserted in the Regimental Records.

"The City of *Toulouse* is defended with an ancient wall flanked with towers, and is surrounded on three sides by the great canal of Languedoc, and the River Garonne. Marshal Soult had fortified the suburb of St. Cipriani, on the left side of the canal, and had established such works in front of the walls, (by which they were also covered,) as to make it a very strong *tête-de-pont*. All the bridges over the canal were likewise strengthened by *têtes-de-pont*, covered by musketry and artillery from the ancient wall. Beyond the canal, and eastwards as far as the River Ers, extends a range of hills, over which pass all the roads to the canal and town. On this ridge Marshal Soult had erected a chain of five redoubts, connected by lines of intrenchment, all mounted with artillery; and as the bridges over the River Ers had been broken down, and the roads rendered impracticable by the continued rains, it was impossible to move upon the enemy's flank on the west side; and no alternative remained but to attack him in this formidable position.

"Early on Sunday morning, the 10th of April, our tents were struck, and we moved with the other regiments of the sixth division towards the neighbourhood of Toulouse, until ordered to halt on a level ground, from whence we had a distinct view of the enemy's position on the ridge of hills already mentioned.

"At the same time we saw Lord Wellington, accompanied by his staff, riding back from the front at a hard trot. Some of the men called out, 'There

1814 “goes Wellington, my lads; we shall have some hot  
“work presently.’

“At that moment Major-General Pack, who commanded our brigade, came up, and calling its officers and non-commissioned officers round him, addressed them to the following effect:—‘We are this day to  
“attack the enemy; your business will be to take  
“possession of those fortified heights, which you see  
“towards the front. I have only to warn you to be  
“prepared to form close column in case of a charge  
“of cavalry; to restrain the impetuosity of the men;  
“and to prevent them from wasting their ammunition.’ The drums then beat to arms, and we  
“received orders to move towards the enemy’s position.

“Our division (the sixth) approached the foot of the ridge of heights on the enemy’s right, and moved in a direction parallel to them, until we reached the point of attack. We advanced under a heavy cannonade, and arrived in front of a redoubt, which protected the right of the enemy’s position, where we were formed in two lines,—the first, consisting of some Portuguese regiments,—and the reserve, of the Highland brigade.

“Darkening the whole hill, flanked by clouds of cavalry, and covered by the fire of their redoubt, the enemy came down upon us like a torrent! Their generals and field-officers riding in front, and waving their hats amidst shouts of the multitude, resembling the roar of an ocean!! Our Highlanders, as if actuated by one instinctive impulse, took off their bonnets, and waving them in the air, returned their greeting with three cheers!!!

“A deathlike silence ensued for some moments, and we could observe a visible pause in the advance of the enemy! At that moment the light company

“ of the FORTY-SECOND Regiment, by a well-directed 1814  
“ fire, brought down some of the French officers of  
“ distinction, as they rode in front of their respective  
“ corps! The enemy immediately fired a volley into  
“ our lines, and advanced upon us amidst a deafening  
“ roar of musketry and artillery! Our troops answered  
“ their fire only once, and unappalled by their furious  
“ onset, advanced up the hill, and met them at the  
“ charge! Upon reaching the summit of the ridge of  
“ heights, the redoubt, which had covered their advance,  
“ fell into our possession; but they still retained four  
“ others, with their connecting lines of intrenchments,  
“ upon the level of the same heights on which we were  
“ now established, and into which they had retired.

“ Meantime, our troops were drawn up along a  
“ road, which passed over the hill, and which, having a  
“ high bank at each side, protected us in some measure  
“ from the general fire of their last line of redoubts.  
“ Here our brigade remained until Marshal Beresford’s  
“ Artillery, which, in consequence of the badness of  
“ the roads, had been left in the village of Mont Blanc,  
“ could be brought up, and until the Spaniards under  
“ General Don Manuel Freyre, which, in proceeding  
“ along the left of the Ers, had been repulsed, could be  
“ reformed, and brought back to the attack.

“ Marshal Beresford’s Artillery having arrived, and  
“ the Spanish troops being once more brought forward,  
“ Major-General Pack rode up in front of our brigade,  
“ and made the following announcement:—‘I have  
“ ‘just now been with General Clinton, and he has  
“ ‘been pleased to grant my request, that in the charge  
“ ‘which we are now to make upon the enemy’s  
“ ‘redoubts, the FORTY-SECOND Regiment shall have  
“ ‘the honour of leading on the attack; the FORTY-  
“ ‘SECOND will advance.’

“ We immediately began to form for the charge

1814 “upon the redoubts, which were about two or three  
“hundred yards distant, and to which we had to pass  
“over some ploughed fields. The grenadiers of the  
“FORTY-SECOND Regiment, followed by the other  
“companies, led the way, and began to ascend from the  
“road; but no sooner were the feathers of their bonnets  
“seen rising over the embankment, than such a  
“tremendous fire was opened from the redoubts and  
“intrenchments, as in a very short time would have  
“annihilated them. The right wing, therefore, hastily  
“formed into line, and without waiting for the left,  
“which was ascending by companies from the road,  
“rushed upon the batteries, which vomited forth a  
“most furious and terrific storm of fire, grape-shot, and  
“musketry!

“The redoubts were erected along the side of a  
“road, and defended by broad ditches filled with water.  
“Just before our troops reached the obstruction, how-  
“ever, the enemy deserted them, and fled in all direc-  
“tions, leaving their last line of strong-holds in our  
“possession; but they still possessed two fortified  
“houses close by, from which they kept up a galling  
“and destructive fire! Out of about five hundred  
“men, which the FORTY-SECOND brought into action,  
“scarcely ninety reached the fatal redoubt from which  
“the enemy had fled!

“As soon as the smoke began to clear away, the  
“enemy made a last attempt to retake their redoubts,  
“and for this purpose advanced in great force: they  
“were a second time repulsed with great loss, and  
“their whole army was driven into Toulouse, which  
“they evacuated on the 12th of April.”

In a few days after this victory, the object of  
twenty years' war was accomplished: France was  
humbled, Napoleon was removed from the imperial  
throne, and the Bourbon dynasty was restored.

The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS had fought and conquered for the good of mankind; and the voice of fame proclaimed their heroic deeds. The blessings of rescued millions, delivered from the grasp of oppression, had followed the British army in its victorious career; and the consummation of the object of these toils and combats, was hailed as the jubilee of Europe. The word "PENINSULA" was afterwards added to the inscriptions on the regimental colour, as an additional memorial of its gallant bearing in the campaigns in Portugal, Spain, and the south of France.

After reposing a short period in quarters in France, the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS received orders to proceed to Ireland; they marched to Bourdeaux, embarked at Pauillac, on the river Garonne, on the 21st of June, and landed at Monkstown, on the 11th and 12th of July.

The second battalion was in Scotland, and the termination of the war being followed by a reduction in the army, this battalion was disbanded at Aberdeen, on the 24th of October, transferring its effective men to the first battalion in Ireland, where the veterans of the Peninsular war were conspicuous for good conduct\*.

The regiment remained in Ireland until the spring 1815 of 1815, when, Napoleon Bonaparte having violated the treaty of 1814, by quitting his retirement in the island of Elba, invading France with a few men, and through the treachery of the French army, regaining possession

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*"Kilkenny, 4th November, 1814.*

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"BRIGADE ORDER.

"Lieutenant-General Gordon Cumming, commanding, was much  
"satisfied with the soldierlike appearance and discipline of the  
"FORTY-SECOND, ROYAL HIGHLANDERS, at his inspection yesterday, and he is also happy to express his approbation of the well-  
"regulated interior economy of the regiment in every respect."

1815 of the throne, the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS were selected to proceed to Flanders, to share in the contest for the removal of the usurper, and for the restoration of the legitimate dynasty. The regiment embarked at the Cove of Cork, on the 4th of May, 1815, landed about ten days afterwards at Ostend, and marched from thence to Brussels, where it was stationed during the period preparations were making for opening the campaign. It was commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Robert Macara, K.C.B., and was formed in brigade with the third battalion of the Royals, the Forty-fourth, and Ninety-second Regiments, under Major-General Sir Denis Pack, K.C.B., in the fifth division, under Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Picton, K.C.B.

While in quarters at Brussels, the Highlanders were conspicuous for their kind and conciliating behaviour, which gained them the respect and esteem of the inhabitants to an unusual degree, and their conduct was long a theme of praise among the Flemings\*.

In the middle of June, Bonaparte endeavoured, by one of those rapid and decisive movements for which he had been celebrated, to interpose between the British and Prussian armies, and then beat them in detail. Information of this movement arrived at Brussels during the night of the 15th of June; suddenly the bugles sounded,—the drums beat to arms, and “every quarter “of the city poured forth its martial bands,—firm,

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\* “ Our two distinguished Highland corps, the FORTY-SECOND “ and Ninety-second, had, by their good behaviour, attracted the “ affection of the inhabitants of Brussels to an unusual degree. “ Even while I was there, *Les petits Ecossois*, as they called them, “ were still the theme of affectionate praise among the Flemings. “ They were so domesticated in the houses where they were quar- “ tered, that it was no uncommon thing to see the Highland soldier “ taking care of the children or keeping the shop of his host.”— PAUL’S *Letters*.

"intrepid, and rejoicing;" at the same time the inhabitants 1815  
quitted their houses to bid farewell to, and witness  
the departure of, the men whose amiable demeanour  
had excited their admiration. "Our two distinguished  
"Highland corps,—the FORTY-SECOND and Ninety-  
"second, were the first to muster. They assembled  
"with the utmost alacrity to the sound of the well-  
"known pibroch, *Come to me and I will give you flesh*,—  
"an invitation to the wolf and the raven, for which the  
"next day did, in fact, spread an ample banquet at the  
"expense of our brave countrymen, as well as of their  
"enemies." . . "About four o'clock in the morning of the  
"16th of June, the FORTY-SECOND and Ninety-second  
"Highland regiments marched through the Place Royal  
"and the Parc. One could not but admire their fine  
"appearance; their firm, collected, steady, military de-  
"meanour, as they went rejoicing to battle, with their  
"bagpipes playing before them, and the beams of the  
"rising sun shining upon their glittering arms. Before  
"that sun had set in night, how many of that gallant  
"band were laid low!" . . "The kind and generous inha-  
"bitants assembled in crowds to witness the departure  
"of their gallant friends, and as the Highlanders  
"marched onward with a steady and collected air, the  
"people breathed many a fervent expression for their  
"safety."

The ROYAL HIGHLANDERS pursued their course  
through the forest of Soignies, Genappe, and along the  
road in the direction of Charleroi. After a march of  
twenty-two miles, they arrived at the post of *Les Quatre*  
*Bras*, at the moment when the second French corps,  
under Marshal Ney, was developing a serious attack  
against that position, with very superior numbers. The  
British regiments were instantly formed for action as  
they arrived at the scene of conflict, and being assailed  
by enemies advancing from different points, each regi-

1815 ment had to fight independently, and, in many instances, to stand or fall by itself.

In Mudford's historical account of this action, it is stated,—“Sir Thomas Picton's ‘superb division’ (of “which the FORTY-SECOND formed part,) was singly “engaged with the enemy for nearly two hours. Every “man fought with a desperation which no language can “describe. The French also displayed the utmost “gallantry, which might justly be inspired by their “superior numbers, as well as their strength in cavalry “and artillery. The latter is a potent substitute for “personal prowess. The fine brigade of Highlanders “suffered much. They were everywhere in the hottest “of the fight, and well did they maintain their warlike “renown. Exposed to a most destructive fire from the “enemy, who were posted on a rising ground, they “patiently endured it, waiting only for opportunities “when they could become the assailants. The FORTY- “SECOND displayed unparalleled bravery.”

As the regiment advanced through a field of rye, which reached nearly to the men's shoulders, a body of cavalry was seen approaching, which was supposed to be either Prussians or Flemings, but which proved to be French. The mistake was not discovered in time to complete the proper formation to receive the charge; the regiment, however, attempted to form square, and while in the act of so doing, the French lancers galloped forward with great impetuosity, being assured of victory when they saw the unprepared state of the regiment. The two flank companies of the regiment suffered severely; but the lancers were repulsed with loss. The enemy repeated the charge, apparently in full confidence of an easy victory; but the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS stood back to back, every man fighting on his own ground with determined resolution, until he fell, or overcame his antagonist, and in this manner the regiment repulsed



a succession of attacks. When the enemy's ardour was 1815 cooled from repeated repulse and loss, and the attacks had become less frequent and less fierce, the regiment completed its formation. It had sustained a severe loss in killed and wounded: Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Robert Macara, K.C.B., had fallen, and the command of the regiment devolved on Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Henry Dick.

Having succeeded in putting to flight the troops, with which they had been engaged, the FORTY-SECOND maintained their ground with heroic firmness\*. The

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\* THE ATTACK ON THE HIGHLANDERS AT QUATRE BRAS.—To the FORTY-SECOND Highlanders and Forty-fourth British Regiment, which were posted on a reversed slope, and in line, close upon the left of the above road, the advance of French cavalry was so sudden and unexpected, the more so as the Brunswickers had just moved on to the front, that as both these bodies whirled past them to the rear, in such close proximity to each other, they were, for the moment, considered to consist of one mass of Allied cavalry. Some of the old soldiers of both Regiments were not so easily satisfied on this point, and immediately opened a partial fire obliquely upon the French lancers, which, however, Sir Denis Pack and their own officers endeavoured as much as possible to restrain; but no sooner had the latter succeeded in causing a cessation of the fire, than the lancers, which were the rearmost of the cavalry, wheeled sharply round, and advanced in admirable order directly upon the rear of the two British regiments. The FORTY-SECOND Highlanders having, from their position, been the first to recognise them as a part of the enemy's forces, rapidly formed a square; but just as the two flank companies were running in to form the rear face, the lancers had reached the regiment, when a considerable portion of their leading division penetrated the square, carrying along with them, by the impetus of their charge, several men of those two companies, and creating a momentary confusion. The long-trying discipline and steadiness of the Highlanders, however, did not forsake them at this critical juncture; these lancers, instead of effecting the destruction of the square, were themselves fairly hemmed into it, and either bayoneted or taken prisoners, whilst the endangered face, restored as if by magic, successfully repelled all further attempts on the part of the French to complete their expected triumph.

1815 fiery and undaunted mettle of the soldiers was not cooled, and they were still disposed to court peril, in the heat of the conflict. Finally the French were repulsed at all points, and the British stood victorious on the field of battle.

The Duke of Wellington stated in his public despatch,—“The troops of the fifth division, and those of “the Brunswick corps, were long and severely engaged, “and conducted themselves with the utmost gallantry. “*I must particularly mention the Twenty-eighth, FORTY-“SECOND, Seventy-eighth, and Ninety-second Regiments, “and the battalion of Hanoverians.*” Being thus distinguished, on an important occasion, by so perfect a judge of military merit, who never conferred praise without ample reason, the FORTY-SECOND highly prized the honor thus conferred upon them by their illustrious commander.

On the following day the army retreated, to keep up the communication with the Prussians, who had fallen back upon Wavre, and the British took up a position in front of the village of *Waterloo*, where they passed the night, exposed to a heavy rain, and without food.

On the morning of the 18th of June, a day memorable in the history of Europe for the final overthrow of the power of Bonaparte, and for the unrivalled display of valour which exalted the reputation of the British arms, the FORTY-SECOND were at their post in the fifth division, and they had the honor of taking part in the severe

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Their commanding officer, Lieut.-Col. Sir Robert Macara, was killed on this occasion, a lance having pierced through his chin until it reached the brain; and within the brief space of a few minutes, the command of the regiment devolved upon three other officers in succession: Lieut.-Col. Dick, who was severely wounded; Brevet-Major Davidson, who was mortally wounded; and Brevet-Major Campbell, who commanded it during the remainder of the campaign.—CAPTAIN SIBORNE'S *History of the Campaign of 1815*.

conflict which followed. In this battle the attacks of 1815 the French troops were often of a description calculated to spread confusion and dismay through any army. They were supported by the thunder of so many guns, accompanied by so much carnage, and followed up by such a succession of column after column, rolling onwards like the waves of the sea, that it required a degree of fortitude and courage, heretofore deemed fabulous, to oppose effectual resistance to so fierce and continued a storm of war. That degree of courage was found in the British ranks, confronting and resisting a torrent of superior numbers, with a constancy and valour which the enemy could not overcome. Paralyzed by the sanguinary fortitude of the British troops, the attacks of the legions of Bonaparte relaxed; the Prussians arrived on the left to co-operate; the Anglo-Belgian army formed line, and with one impetuous charge decided the fortune of the day, and the destiny of the world. The French host was overthrown and driven from the field of battle, with the loss of its cannon and equipage, and the hopes of Bonaparte were annihilated for ever by British valour. The firing ceased; the setting sun, hitherto obscured, cast a gleam of light over the field, and more distinctly disclosed this unparalleled scene, while the British colours waved triumphant over the heights of Mount St. Jean, which were covered with ensanguined trophies.

The FORTY-SECOND Highlanders sustained a severe loss in killed and wounded. "They fought like heroes, and like heroes they fell—an honor to their country. On many a Highland hill, and through many a Low-land valley, long will the deeds of these brave men be fondly remembered, and their fate deeply deplored. *Never did a finer body of men take the field, never did men march to battle, that were destined to perform such*

1815 "*services to their country, and to obtain such immortal  
"renown\*;"*

The regiment had Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Robert Macara, K.C.B., Lieutenant George Gordon, Ensign George Gerrard, two serjeants, and forty-five rank and file killed; Captain George Davidson died of his wounds; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel<sup>3</sup> Robert Henry Dick, Captains Archibald Menzies, Donald Mc Donald, Daniel Mc Intosh, Robert Boyle, and Mungo Mc Pherson, Lieutenants Donald Chisholm, Duncan Stewart, Donald Mc Kenzie, Hugh A. Fraser, John Malcolm, Alexander Dunbar, James Brander, George G. Munro, John Orr, and William Fraser, Ensign A. L. Fraser, Adjutant James Young, Quarter-Master Donald Mc Intosh, twelve serjeants, one drummer, and two hundred and fifteen rank and file wounded.

The word "WATERLOO," borne on the colours of the regiment, by royal authority, commemorates the gallantry it displayed on this occasion; a medal was conferred on each officer and soldier; and the privilege of reckoning two years' service, towards additional pay and pension on discharge, was also granted to the men.

Names of the officers who received medals for the battle of Waterloo.

*Major.*

Brevet Lieut.-Colonel Robert Henry Dick, C.B.

*Captains.*

Archibald Menzies	John Campbell	Mungo McPherson
Donald Mc Donald	Daniel Mc Intosh	Robert Boyle.

*Lieutenants.*

Donald Chisholm	Duncan Stewart	Donald Mc Kenzie
Hugh A. Fraser	John Malcolm	Alexander Dunbar
James Brander	Roger Stewart	James Robertson

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\* Statement respecting the FORTY-SECOND and Ninety-second Highlanders, in *The Circumstantial Detail of the Battle of Waterloo by a near Observer.*

\* *Lieutenants*—Continued.

1815

Kenneth McDougall	Donald McKay	Alexander Innes
John Grant	John Orr	George G. Munro.

*Ensigns.*

William Fraser	Andrew L. Fraser	Alexander Brown]
Alexander Cumming.		

*Adjutant*, James Young; *Quarter-Master*, Donald Mc Intosh;*Surgeon*, Swinton McLeod;*Assistant Surgeons*, Donald McPherson and John Stewart.

Advancing from the field of battle, the regiment continued its progress to the capital of France, and the surrender of Paris, with the restoration of Louis XVIII., followed in rapid succession. Bonaparte attempted to escape to America, but, finding this impossible, he surrendered to a British man-of-war, and was sent into exile at St. Helena. Thus terminated the splendid campaign of 1815, in which the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS acquired a celebrity for intrepidity, firmness, and valour, never exceeded by the renowned warriors of antiquity.

After encamping several months in the vicinity of Paris, and taking part in several grand reviews, at which the Emperors of Russia and Austria, the Kings of Prussia and France, and several other royal and distinguished personages were present, the regiment marched to Calais, where it embarked for England, and landed at Ramsgate on the 19th of December.

In the spring of 1816, the regiment marched to 1816 Scotland, and was stationed at Edinburgh, where it was inspected on the 30th of April, by Major-General Hope, who expressed, in orders, his satisfaction at witnessing its high state of discipline, its interior economy, and correct manœuvring, and also the exemplary conduct of the men in quarters. These expressions were repeated at the inspection at Glasgow in November.

On the sixteenth anniversary of the battle of Alexan- 1817

1817 dria, a meeting of the Highland Society took place (21st March, 1817), his Royal Highness the Duke of York, president of the society, in the chair.

His Royal Highness rose and stated, that, as the last act of his presidency, he had a delightful duty to discharge,—that of presenting, in the name of the corporation, to the Marquis of Huntly, as colonel of the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS, the vase voted in acknowledgment of the high sense entertained by the society of the brilliant achievements of that distinguished corps. The duke, in a feeling and appropriate manner, alluded to the services of the FORTY-SECOND Regiment, from the period of its being regimented, in 1739, throughout all the different wars in which the country had been engaged, to the memorable battle of Waterloo, and observed, that on all occasions, under all circumstances, and in every clime, the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS had gloriously supported the fame of their native land; and he was proud to add, that, great as their valour had ever been in the field, their behaviour in quarters had been equally correct and exemplary.

His Royal Highness then presented to the Marquis of Huntly, for the regiment, a richly-chased silver tripod, with fluted bowl, weighing nearly eight hundred ounces, ornamented with thistle foliage, and supported on a triangular plinth, on one of the faces of which was the obverse of a medal, struck to commemorate the battle of Alexandria, and representing the head of Sir Ralph Abercromby, with the inscription,—“*Abercrombii Dux in Egypto cecidit victor, 21 Mar. 1801.*” On another face was the reverse of the same medal, which represented the taking of the Invincible Standard, with the inscription,—“*Na Tìr a chaisin Buardh san Eiphart, 21 Mar, 1801.*” The third face bore the inscription,—“*O’Chummun Gaidheulach d’an Threieadan Dubh na 42nd Regiment.*” The three subjects were

severally encircled with laurel, and supported by an 1817 ancient and modern Highlander, with appropriate emblems from designs by Mr. West, president of the Royal Academy. The plinth rested on the backs of three recumbent Egyptian sphinxes, on a triangular base.

Leaving Glasgow in April, the regiment proceeded to Port Patrick, where it embarked for Ireland, and landing at Donaghadee, marched from thence to Armagh, detaching parties to all the adjacent towns. In these quarters the regiment received the approbation of Major-General Burnet, who stated in orders, dated the 28th of June,—“The orderly and soldierlike conduct of the men “in quarters, their martial appearance under arms, in “short, everything connected with this gallant and “highly-distinguished corps, show its superior efficiency “and discipline.” These expressions were repeated at the inspection in October; and similar sentiments were announced by Major-General Sir S. Beckwith, in May of the following year.

In June, 1818, the regiment marched to Dundalk; 1818 and in May, 1819, to Dublin, where it remained upwards of twelve months, receiving highly commendatory notices in orders, from Major-General White, Major-General Bulwer, and Major-General Sir Colquhoun Grant.

On the 29th of January, 1820, the colonelcy of the 1820 regiment was conferred on Lieutenant-General John Earl of Hopetoun, G.C.B., from the Ninety-second Highlanders, in succession to General the Marquis of Huntly.

From Dublin the regiment marched, in August, to Kilkenny and Clonmel, and while at these stations its appearance and discipline were commended in orders by Major-General Sir Thomas Brisbane, and Major-General Egerton.

The regiment marched, in October, 1821, to Rath- 1821

1821 keale, and took part in the harassing duties to which the troops in the county of Limerick were exposed during the disturbed state of the country, and its conduct procured the unqualified approbation of the general officers under whom it served.

1822 In July, 1822, the regiment marched to Limerick, and the orders issued after the usual half-yearly inspections, by Major-General Sir John Lambert, and Major-General Sir John Elley, were highly commendatory.

1823 From Limerick the regiment proceeded to Buttevant, in July, 1823, and afterwards occupied many detached stations in the county of Cork, where it preserved its high reputation for correct discipline, and for general efficiency, which procured the encomiums of the inspecting generals.

On the decease of General the Earl of Hopetoun, G.C.B., the colonelcy was conferred on Major-General Sir George Murray, G.C.B., G.C.H., from the Seventy-second, or the Duke of Albany's Own Highlanders, by commission, dated the 6th of September, 1823.

1825 Leaving the province of Munster, in June, 1825, the regiment received a highly commendatory communication from Lieutenant-General Sir John Lambert, expressing the high sense he entertained of the discipline and conduct of the corps: it afterwards marched to Dublin, where it was stationed three months.

The regiment was divided into six service and four dépôt companies, and the service companies received orders to proceed to the celebrated fortress of Gibraltar. They accordingly marched from Dublin, for embarkation at the Cove of Cork, on board His Majesty's ship "Albion," and the "Sovereign" and "Numa" transports: the last division arrived at Gibraltar in the middle of December. The dépôt companies were moved from

1826 Ireland to Scotland.

On arrival at Gibraltar, the regiment occupied



Windmill-hill Barracks, and was afterwards removed to 1826  
Rosia, where it was stationed during the year 1827. 1827

In February, 1828, the regiment took possession of 1828  
a wing of the grand casemates. An epidemic fever  
prevailing in the garrison, from which the regiment  
suffered severely, it encamped, in September, on the  
neutral ground: its loss from the fever was, Ensign  
Charles Stewart, six serjeants, and fifty-three rank and  
file.

The regiment returned to the grand casemates on 1829  
the 9th of January, 1829; again encamped in the  
neutral ground in July, leaving in barracks the men  
who had recovered from the fever. The health of the  
soldiers being re-established, it returned within the for-  
tress in October.

After performing duty at the fortress of Gibraltar 1832  
upwards of six years, the regiment received orders to  
transfer its services to the island of Malta. It embarked  
from Gibraltar on the 13th of January, 1832, when the  
Governor, Lieutenant-General Sir William Houstoun,  
G.C.B., expressed in Garrison Orders, "that the  
"FORTY-SECOND Royal Highlanders had embarked  
"in a manner fully supporting their high character for  
"discipline and good conduct, and he regretted their  
"departure."

In December, 1834, the regiment embarked from 1834  
Malta for the Ionian Islands, and landed at Corfu seven  
days afterwards.

The regiment was stationed in the Ionian Islands 1835  
until the summer of 1836, when it had completed a  
period of ten years and six months' service in the  
Mediterranean, and it received orders to return to the  
United Kingdom.

When the Regiment left Corfu on the 30th June, 1836  
1836, it was accompanied to the place of embarkation  
by the Lord High Commissioner, Major-General Sir

1836 Howard Douglas, who, on its being formed on the esplanade, addressed it in the following terms:—

*“Colonel Middleton, Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers,  
“and Soldiers of the Royal Highlanders,*

“I have come hither to assure you, that the conduct  
“of the FORTY-SECOND has given me the highest degree of satisfaction during the time it has been under  
“my orders, and I wish to express to you the deep  
“regret I feel at the departure of this gallant and distinguished Corps from the Station under my command.

“The highest professional obligation of a Regiment  
“is so to act as to render itself dreaded as well as respected by enemies. This the FORTY-SECOND has  
“hitherto nobly and effectually done; and that power,  
“though it exist unimpaired in the condition of this  
“Regiment, reposes for the present happily in peace.

“It is peculiarly the duty of a British soldier to  
“conciliate, by personal demeanour and individual conduct, the esteem and regard of his fellow-subjects at  
“home, and wherever he may be serving abroad, to  
“cultivate the best terms, and gain the respect and  
“good will of all classes of persons in the community  
“of the place where he may be quartered. This, too,  
“FORTY-SECOND, you have well done! The good  
“terms, which so happily subsist between the protector  
“and the protected here, have not only been undisturbed, but cemented by your good conduct; and it  
“affords me the greatest pleasure to have heard it declared by the highest authorities here, that you take  
“with you the regard, respect, and good wishes of this  
“population. As I was honored by having this Regiment placed under my orders, and I am highly satisfied with the conduct of the Corps to the moment of  
“its departure, so should I feel gratified if I should

“have the good fortune to have you again under my 1836  
 “command. If this should be in Peace, I shall have  
 “the pleasure of renewing the agreeable intercourse I  
 “have had with the Officers, and the pleasing duties I  
 “have had to discharge with you. Should a renewal  
 “of the connexion take place in War, it will afford me  
 “much delight and satisfaction, and I shall feel great  
 “honor conferred upon me by being again associated  
 “with a corps, which, I well know, would acquire fresh  
 “inscriptions to its own renown, and to the honor of  
 “our country, on the banners which have braved many  
 “a hard-fought battle-field, and which have waved  
 “triumphantly over many a victory! FORTY-SECOND,  
 “farewell!”

The Regiment landed at Leith in September and October, 1836, and was joined by the Depôt Companies at Edinburgh Castle. It remained in Scotland during 1837, and until the spring of 1838, when it embarked 1837 from Glasgow for Ireland. On the Regiment leaving 1838 Glasgow, Major-General Lord Greenock, commanding the Forces in North Britain, accompanied it to the place of embarkation, and presented the following memorandum to Lieut.-Colonel Middleton:—

“*Glasgow Barracks, 16th April, 1838.*

“The FORTY-SECOND *Royal Highlanders* being  
 “under orders to embark for Ireland, Major-General  
 “Lord Greenock takes the opportunity to express his  
 “approbation of that distinguished regiment.

“The Major-General has the utmost satisfaction in  
 “bearing testimony to the *Royal Highlanders* having in  
 “no degree degenerated from their ancient renown,  
 “either in the soldier-like appearance of the Men, their  
 “steadiness and movements in the Field, and their  
 “general good conduct in Quarters, or in the discipline

1838 "and efficiency of the Corps, and the regularity of all  
"its interior arrangements.

"To its present Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Colonel  
"Middleton, and to the other Officers, Major-General  
"Lord Greenock returns his best thanks for the unre-  
"mitting zeal and attention with which they have per-  
"formed their several duties.

"The Non-commissioned Officers are assured, that  
"their merits have not been overlooked by the Major-  
"General, as the Regiment could not have been main-  
"tained in its present high state of discipline and effi-  
"ciency, unless they also had discharged their duties  
"zealously and effectively.

"(Signed) GREENOCK, *Major-General,*  
"*Commanding in North Britain.*"

The Regiment landed at Dublin on the 19th April, 1838, and remained in Ireland, until the beginning of the year 1841, being successively stationed at Dublin, Limerick, Templemore, and Cork.

1839 On the 7th March, 1839, new colours were presented to the Regiment, with the accustomed ceremonies, in the square of the Royal Barracks at Dublin, by Lieut.-General the Right Honorable Sir Edward Blakeney, K.C.B., Commanding the Forces in Ireland.

1841 In January, 1841, the Regiment was again ordered to be prepared for service in the Mediterranean, and was accordingly formed into six Service Companies, and four Dépôt Companies. The Service Companies embarked on the 12th January from Cork for the Ionian Islands, and arrived at Corfu on the 8th of February following. The Dépôt Companies remained in Ireland until May, 1841, when they embarked from Dublin for Glasgow, where they arrived on the 27th of that month: they marched from thence to Stirling, and in March, 1842, were removed to Aberdeen.

In November, 1841, the head quarters of the Ser- 1841  
vice Companies were removed from Corfu to Cefalonia;  
two companies were detached to Vido, and in October,  
1842, these two companies were sent to the Island of  
Zante to relieve a similar detachment of the Ninety-  
seventh Regiment.

The FORTY-SECOND and eight other regiments\* 1842  
having been augmented to an establishment of one  
lieutenant-colonel, twelve captains, fourteen lieutenants,  
ten ensigns, six staff officers, sixty-seven serjeants,  
twenty-five drummers, and twelve hundred rank and  
file, the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS received upwards of  
four hundred Scots volunteers from other corps, (one  
hundred and eighty of whom were furnished by the  
Seventy-second, Seventy-ninth, Ninety-second, and  
Ninety-third Highland Regiments,) towards the comple-  
tion of their new establishment; and the dépôt was  
moved to Aberdeen in May, where it was formed into  
six companies to be termed the *Reserve Battalion*, and  
its organization rapidly proceeded.

In August, 1842, when Her Majesty the Queen  
Victoria visited Scotland, the Reserve Battalion of the  
Royal Highlanders furnished a Guard of Honor for  
Her Majesty at Dupplin, Taymouth, Drummond, and  
Stirling Castles, and the brevet rank of Lieutenant-  
Colonel was conferred on the Commanding Officer,  
Major James Macdougall.

In November, 1842, the Reserve Battalion embarked  
at Alloa on board of the "Monarch" steamer for Dept-  
ford, where it arrived on the 19th of the month,—  
marched immediately to Vauxhall, and proceeded the  
same day by railway to Gosport. On the 23rd Novem-

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\* The Twelfth, Twentieth, Twenty-third, Forty-fifth, Seventy-  
first, Ninety-first, Ninety-seventh, and second battalion Rifle Brigade.

1842 ber this portion of the regiment embarked from Gosport for Malta, to be joined by the first battalion from the Ionian Islands.

The dépôt, consisting of one captain, two lieutenants one ensign, six serjeants, two drummers, and one hundred and twenty rank and file, was sent to the Isle of Wight, in November, 1842, where the dépôts of the augmented regiments, above alluded to, were ordered to be formed into a dépôt battalion, and placed under the command of Colonel Custance.

1843 The head quarters and three companies of the first battalion, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Johnstone, embarked at Cephalonia, and landed at Malta on the 20th February; the other three companies arrived at Malta from Zante on the 27th March.

On the 29th of December, 1843, General the Right Honourable Sir George Murray, G.C.B., was removed to the First, or the Royal Regiment of Foot, in succession to General Lord Lynedoch, deceased; and the colonelcy of the FORTY-SECOND Royal Highlanders was conferred on Lieutenant-General Sir John Macdonald, K.C.B., (Adjutant-General of the Forces,) from the Sixty-seventh Regiment. Sir George Murray, on his removal, addressed a letter to Lieutenant-Colonel Cameron, commanding the regiment, from which the following are extracts:—

“ I cannot leave the command of the FORTY-SECOND  
“ Royal Highlanders without requesting you to express  
“ to them, in the strongest terms, how high an honour  
“ I shall always esteem it to have been for upwards of  
“ twenty years the colonel of a regiment, which, by its  
“ exemplary conduct in every situation, and by its  
“ distinguished valour in many a well-fought field, has  
“ earned for itself so large a share of esteem and of  
“ renown as that which belongs to the FORTY-SECOND  
“ Regiment.

“Wherever the military service of our country may 1843  
“hereafter require the presence of the Royal High-  
“landers, my most friendly wishes and best hopes will  
“always accompany them, and it will afford me the  
“greatest pleasure to learn that harmony and mutual  
“good-will continue, as heretofore, to prevail through-  
“out their ranks; and that discipline, so essential to  
“the honour and success of every military body, is  
“upheld amongst them, not more by the vigilance and  
“the good example of those in command, than by the  
“desire of all to discharge regularly, faithfully, and  
“zealously, the several duties which it belongs to each  
“respectively to perform. Whilst the Royal High-  
“landers persevere, (as I feel confident, by my long  
“acquaintance with them, both before and during the  
“period of my having the honour to command them,  
“that they always will,) in the same path of duty which  
“they have hitherto followed, they will never cease to  
“add to that high reputation which they have already  
“achieved for themselves, and for their native land.”

The many important and distinguished services, 1844  
which have been performed by the FORTY-SECOND  
Royal Highland Regiment, and which are recorded in  
the preceding pages, bear ample testimony to the merits  
of the corps; and the results which have ensued, on all  
occasions, when the Regiment has been engaged in  
active service, render the words of panegyric unnecessary.

The gallant services of the regiment at the *Battle of Fontenoy* in 1745 were such that if they had been properly supported by the Dutch and other corps of the allied army, the victory would have been on the side of the British! Its first engagement with a foreign enemy, and its courageous conduct throughout this sanguinary conflict, established the most decided proof of its excellence and superior bravery!



- 1844      Maintaining their national character in the arduous contests in America, in the wars of 1756 and 1776; in the West Indies at different periods; on the burning sands of Egypt in 1801; in the peninsula of Spain and Portugal from 1808 to 1814; and at the all-crowning victory of Waterloo in 1815, the merits and services of the Royal Highlanders have been as conspicuous as when first called from their native mountains of the north; on all occasions they have evinced the same ardent desire of distinction and honour, whether in contesting against the opponents of freedom on the cultivated plains of Europe, or in the distant and less civilized parts of the other quarters of the globe.

The conduct of the Royal Highland Regiment, for a century since its formation, as attested by the general officers under whom it has been employed at home and abroad, has been such as to justify the inference, that it will continue to be an honour to the British army, and to deserve the same reputation wherever it may be employed, whether in acquiring additional fame in active war, or in the less splendid, but not less arduous, duties of Colonial service.

United together as a family or clan, by the ties of kindred and country, the relative positions of officer and soldier have never been lost sight of, nor the bands of discipline loosened, among the **ROYAL HIGHLANDERS**; who, in all situations, whether on foreign or home service, have evinced, that the strict performance of military duty is perfectly consistent with the observance of social and kind feelings towards the people among whom they may be quartered: the services of the Scots soldier, by these excellent qualities, have thus acquired the respect of the country, and the approbation and confidence of the Sovereign.

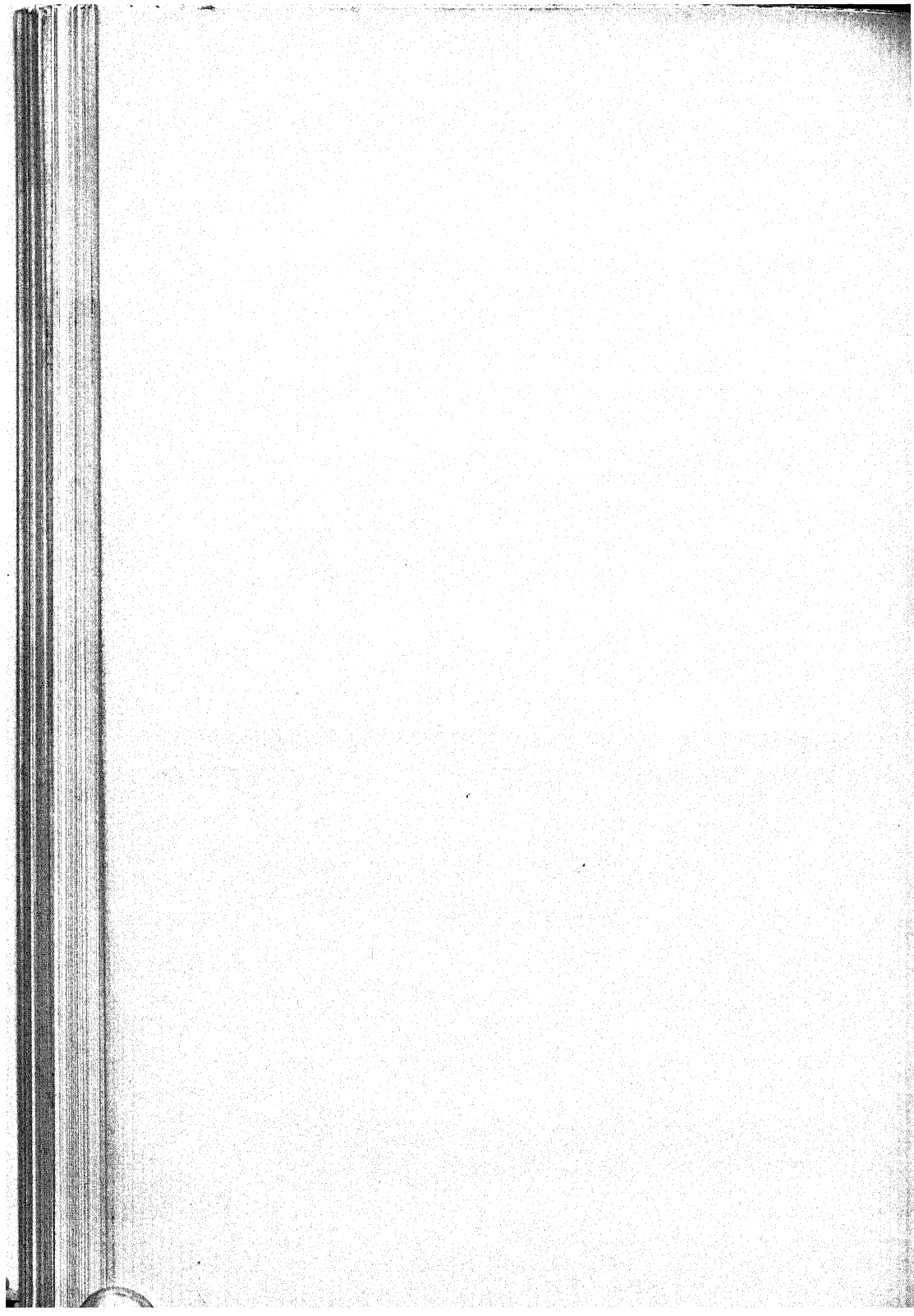
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FORTY-SECOND ROYAL HIGHLAND REGIMENT.

[To face page 158.]



SUCCESSION OF COLONELS  
OF  
THE FORTY-SECOND,  
OR  
THE ROYAL HIGHLAND REGIMENT  
OF  
F O O T.

---

JOHN, EARL OF CRAWFORD.

*Appointed 25th October, 1739.*

LORD JOHN LINDSAY was of Lowland extraction, but he was initiated into all the habits of the Highlanders from his youth,—having been educated under the eye of his kinsman, John, Duke of Argyle, at whose castle of Inverary he passed his early years, acquiring the language of the Highlanders, and becoming attached to the people, their manners, and their dress. In 1713, in the twelfth year of his age, he succeeded to the title of EARL OF CRAWFORD. He soon became celebrated for skill in horsemanship, dexterity in fencing, and the accomplishments of a courtier and a gentleman, and appeared formed by nature for the profession of arms. He was captain of a troop in the Scots Greys in 1726, and in the Seventh Dragoons in 1732: he was elected one of the sixteen representative peers of Scotland in the same year. In 1734 he was appointed captain-lieutenant in the First Foot Guards, and in October of the same year, captain and lieutenant-colonel in the Third Foot Guards. Being desirous of acquiring a practical knowledge of his profession, he served as a volunteer in the imperial army on the Rhine in 1735, and was at the battle of Claussen. In

1738 he proceeded to Russia, and served under Marshal Munich against the Turks, and signalized himself on several occasions. He afterwards joined the Imperialists near Belgrade; and at the battle of Kratzka, on the 22nd of July, 1739, he fought at the head of Palfi's cuirassiers, had his horse killed under him, and received a wound in the thigh, from the effects of which he was never afterwards free. In the same year King George II. selected the EARL OF CRAWFORD for the colonelcy of the regiment formed of independent companies in the Highlands of Scotland, now the FORTY-SECOND, or the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS. In 1740 his Majesty removed him to the Second, or Scots Troop of Horse Grenadier Guards, and in 1743, to the Fourth, or Scots Troop of Life Guards, which gave him the privilege of taking the court duty of Gold Stick. The EARL OF CRAWFORD commanded the brigade of Life Guards and Horse Grenadier Guards at the battle of Dettingen in 1743, and at the battle of Fontenoy in 1745, on both of which occasions he displayed great judgment and courage. In the early part of 1746 his lordship served in Scotland, and secured Stirling, Perth, and other passes into the Highlands, while the Duke of Cumberland pursued the insurgent clans towards Inverness. In December, when King George II. had resolved to incorporate the Third and Fourth Troops of Horse Guards into the First and Second Troops, the EARL OF CRAWFORD was appointed colonel of the Twenty-fifth Regiment, and was soon afterwards removed to the Scots Greys. He commanded a brigade of cavalry at the battle of Roucoux on the 11th of October, 1746, when he evinced great gallantry: he also served in the Netherlands in 1747 and 1748. He died at London on the 25th of December, 1749.

HUGH LORD SEMPILL.

*Appointed 14th January, 1741.*

THE HONORABLE HUGH SEMPILL, fifth son of Anne, Baroness of Sempill, and consort of Lord Glassford, choosing

the profession of arms, obtained the commission of ensign in a regiment of foot, in July, 1709, and he served with reputation in Spain, and also in Flanders, under the celebrated John Duke of Marlborough, and the Duke of Ormond. In 1716 he succeeded, on the decease of his brother, to the dignity of LORD SEMPILL. Two years afterwards, he was promoted major of the Twenty-sixth, or Cameronian Regiment of Foot; with which corps he served in Ireland, and also at Gibraltar; and on the 12th of July, 1731, he was promoted to the lieutenant-colonelcy of the Nineteenth Foot; which regiment he commanded with reputation several years. His constant attention to all the duties of commanding officer was rewarded, in 1741, with the colonelcy of the FORTY-SECOND Highlanders; which corps he accompanied to Flanders in 1743. LORD SEMPILL was removed to the Twenty-fifth Foot in April, 1745, and was promoted to the rank of brigadier-general in June following: he distinguished himself in the defence of Aeth in the same year. In the beginning of 1746 he served under the Duke of Cumberland in Scotland, and commanded a brigade at the decisive battle of Culloden, where the hopes of the Pretender were annihilated. In August following, he proceeded to Aberdeen, and assumed the command of the troops in that quarter; where he died on the 25th of November, 1746; his decease being occasioned by the tendon of his arm being punctured in the operation of phlebotomy.

LORD JOHN MURRAY.

*Appointed 25th April, 1745.*

LORD JOHN MURRAY, seventh son of John, first Duke of Athole, was appointed ensign in a regiment of foot, on the 7th of October, 1727; in 1733 he was promoted to lieutenant and captain in the Third Foot Guards; in 1737 he obtained the commission of captain-lieutenant, and was advanced to that of captain and lieutenant-colonel, in the same corps, in 1738. In 1745 King George II. promoted him to the

colonelcy of the FORTY-SECOND Highlanders. He served with his regiment in the Netherlands in 1747, at the relief of Hulst, and the defence of Fort-Sandberg, and commanded the troops in the retreat to Welshorden. He subsequently served as a volunteer in the defence of the lines of Bergen-op-zoom. The rank of major-general was conferred on his lordship in 1755, that of lieutenant-general in 1758, and of general in 1770.

LORD JOHN MURRAY took great interest in everything connected with his regiment,—of which he was particularly proud,—and his attention was directed to the preservation of the national character of the corps. He was, in a peculiar manner, the friend of every deserving officer and soldier. He appeared in uniform before the Board at Chelsea Hospital, to plead the cause of the Highlanders disabled at Ticonderago; the men also experienced his generosity at the time, with the offer of the free use of a cottage and garden to all who chose to settle on his estate. He was many years a member of parliament for Perth. He died on the 18th of May, 1787, in his seventy-seventh year; being senior officer in the army at the time.

SIR HECTOR MUNRO, K.B.

*Appointed 1st June, 1787.*

HECTOR MUNRO, descended from an ancient family of Ross-shire, was first appointed to a commission in the Thirty-first Regiment, in 1748, during the war of the Austrian succession:—in August, 1756, he was promoted to the rank of captain of a company in the second battalion of the Thirty-first, which, in 1758, was formed into a distinct Regiment, and numbered the Seventieth Foot. In October, 1759, he was promoted major in the Eighty-ninth Regiment, and was placed on half-pay at the peace of Fontainebleau, in 1763. He was promoted to the rank of lieutenant-colonel in October, 1765, and in August, 1767, to that of colonel. He was subsequently appointed commander-in-chief

at Madras, and in 1779 his distinguished services for many years in the East Indies were rewarded with the dignity of Knight Companion of the Most Honorable Military Order of the Bath. In 1787 King George III. conferred upon him the colonelcy of the FORTY-SECOND ROYAL HIGHLANDERS. He was promoted lieutenant-general in 1793, and on 1st January, 1798, he attained the rank of general. He died at Novar, in Ross-shire, on the 26th December, 1805.

GEORGE, MARQUIS OF HUNTLY.

*Appointed 3rd January, 1806.*

GEORGE, MARQUIS OF HUNTLY, son of Alexander, fourth Duke of Gordon, choosing the profession of arms, was appointed to a commission in the Thirty-fifth Regiment in 1790. In the same year he raised an independent company of Highlanders; and exchanging, in January, 1791, to the FORTY-SECOND Regiment, he brought with him a fine band of young Highlanders. On the 11th of July, 1792, he was promoted to captain-lieutenant and lieutenant-colonel in the Third Foot Guards. He accompanied the detachment of Foot Guards to Flanders in the spring of 1793, was at the action of St. Amand on the 8th of May, and was engaged in driving the French from the position at the village of Famars on the 23rd of May. He was subsequently employed at the siege of Valenciennes, which fortress surrendered to the Duke of York in July. On the 18th of August he was engaged at Lincelles; and he afterwards served at the siege of Dunkirk. When the army went into winter quarters, the MARQUIS OF HUNTLY returned to England, and in the following year he raised a corps of Highlanders, which was numbered the Hundredth Regiment, now the Ninety-second, of which he was appointed lieutenant-colonel commandant on the 10th of February, 1794. He accompanied his regiment to Gibraltar; and on his return to England, he was captured by a French privateer. He afterwards rejoined his regiment at the island of Corsica, where he served upwards of a year;



and on the 3rd of May, 1796, he was promoted to the rank of colonel. On the breaking out of the rebellion in Ireland in 1798, he joined his regiment in that country, where he served as brigadier-general, and was actively employed against the rebels, particularly in Wexford. He accompanied the expedition to Holland in 1799, was at the landing at the Helder, and continued actively employed until the 2nd of October, when he was wounded at the battle of Bergen. On the 1st January, 1801, he was promoted to the rank of major-general; and in 1803 he was appointed to the staff of North Britain, where he served three years. In January, 1806, he was appointed to the colonelcy of the FORTY-SECOND, or the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS; and in April, 1808, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant-general. He commanded a division in the expedition to Holland in 1809; and in August, 1819, he was advanced to the rank of general. In 1820 he was removed to the First,—the Royal Regiment of Foot,—and in a few months afterwards he was nominated a Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honorable Military Order of the Bath. In 1827 he succeeded, on the decease of his father, to the dignity of DUKE OF GORDON; he was also appointed Governor of Edinburgh Castle, and Keeper of the Great Seal of Scotland. In 1834 he was removed to the Scots Fusilier Guards. He was distinguished as a kind-hearted and gallant nobleman and soldier,—contributing largely to many charitable institutions. His social, private, and public virtues, endeared him to his family and friends; and a succession of uninterrupted acts of philanthropy procured him universal esteem. He died on the 28th of May, 1836; and his remains, by especial command of his Majesty King William IV., were escorted by the First Battalion of the Scots Fusilier Guards from London to Greenwich, where they were placed on board a steam-vessel, for the purpose of being conveyed to Scotland for interment in a mausoleum erected on the paternal estate. By his Grace's decease the dukedom became extinct.



JOHN, EARL OF HOPETOUN, G.C.B.

*Appointed 29th January, 1820.*

THE HONORABLE JOHN HOPE, son of John, second Earl of Hopetoun, evinced a predilection for the profession of arms from his youth, and served as a volunteer in his fifteenth year. On the 23th of May, 1784, he was appointed cornet in the Tenth Light Dragoons; two years afterwards, he was nominated lieutenant in the Twenty-seventh Foot, and in 1789, captain in the Seventeenth Light Dragoons; in 1792 he was promoted major in the First Foot, and in the following year, lieutenant-colonel in the Twenty-fifth Regiment, with which corps he served in the West Indies, where he was appointed adjutant-general, and served the campaigns of 1794, 1795, 1796, and 1797, with great distinction, being particularly noticed in the orders and public despatches of Lieutenant-General Sir Ralph Abercromby, and other commanders. In 1796 he was elected a member of parliament for the county of Linlithgow. He was nominated deputy adjutant-general to the expedition to Holland in 1799, and was severely wounded at the landing in North Holland on the 27th of August. In 1800 he was appointed adjutant-general to the army in the Mediterranean, under Lieutenant-General Sir Ralph Abercromby, and served in the expedition to Egypt: he was at the actions of the 8th and 13th of March, 1801, and was wounded before Alexandria on the 21st of March, when Sir Ralph Abercromby received a wound, of which he died on the 28th of March, 1801. Brigadier-General Hope recovered, and requesting to have a brigade, was succeeded as adjutant-general by Colonel Abercromby. On the 16th of June, he joined the army before Cairo, with the Twenty-eighth and FORTY-SECOND Regiments, and he afterwards evinced ability in conducting the negotiations for the surrender of the capital of Egypt by the French troops, under General Belliard. He continued in the command of a brigade until the deliverance of Egypt was ac-

complished, and received the second class of the Order of the Crescent established by the Grand Seignior. In 1802 his services were rewarded by the colonelcy of the North Lowland Fencible Infantry, and the rank of major-general; to which was added, in June, 1805, the appointment of deputy-governor of Portsmouth; but he resigned this appointment soon afterwards, to accompany the troops sent to Hanover under Lieutenant-General Lord Cathcart. In October, 1805, he was appointed colonel-commandant of a battalion of the Sixtieth Regiment; and in 1806 he succeeded the Marquis of Huntly in the colonelcy of the Ninety-second Regiment. On the 25th of April, 1808, he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant-general. He was nominated second in command of the expedition to the Baltic, under Lieutenant-General Sir John Moore, and afterwards accompanied the troops to Portugal. He commanded a division of the army which advanced into Spain, under Sir John Moore, and shared in that campaign, and in the battle of Corunna, where he succeeded to the command of the army,—Sir John Moore being killed, and Sir David Baird wounded; and he succeeded in repulsing the attack of the French under Marshal Soult. On the embarkation of the army, he took particular care to prevent any soldier being left behind, and was the last man who went on board the fleet. His despatch contains an interesting account of the battle. He was thanked for his distinguished services by parliament, was honored with the approbation of his Sovereign, and the admiration and applause of his country; and was nominated a Knight of the Most Honorable Military Order of the Bath. After his return from Spain, he served with the Walcheren expedition, under General the Earl of Chatham, and was subsequently commander-in-chief in Ireland; from which he was removed, in 1813, to the appointment of second in command in the Peninsula. Lieutenant-General SIR JOHN HOPE commanded the left wing of the army at the battle of the Nivelle on the 10th of November, and signalised himself at the battle of the Nive, in December; on which occasion the British commander stated in his

public despatch—"I cannot sufficiently applaud the ability, "coolness, and judgment, of Lieutenant-General Sir John "Hope." He passed the Adour with the left wing of the army in February, 1814, and blockaded the important fortress of Bayonne,—in which service he evinced great ability and perseverance; and he remained in the command of the blockading force until the termination of the war. After Napoleon had abdicated, the French commandant at Bayonne, not believing the news, made a sortie on the night of the 14th of April, and gained some advantage. Lieut.-General SIR JOHN HOPE coming up with some troops in the dark, encountered the enemy, when his horse was shot, and fell upon him, and he was wounded and taken prisoner. The French were, however, repulsed. At the restoration of peace, he returned to England with a high reputation. He received the thanks of parliament; a medal and a clasp for the battles of Corunna and the Nive; was elevated to the peerage of the United Kingdom by the title of BARON NIDDRY, of Niddry in the county of Linlithgow, and was nominated a Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honorable Military Order of the Bath. He afterwards succeeded to the dignity of EARL OF HOPETOUN. In 1819 he was promoted to the rank of general, and was appointed colonel of the FORTY-SECOND, or the ROYAL HIGHLANDERS, in 1820. He died at Paris on the 27th of August, 1823.

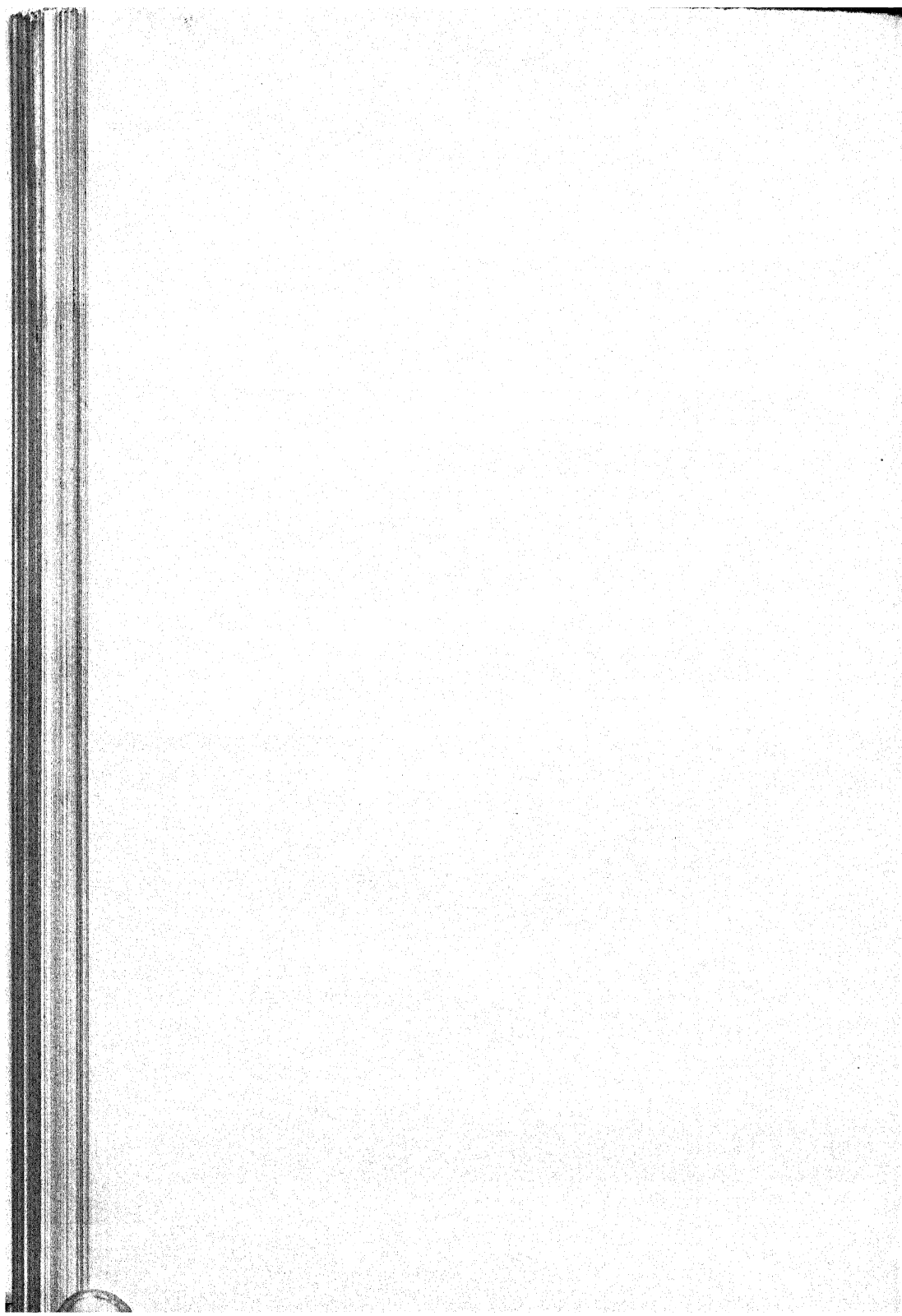
THE RIGHT HON. SIR GEORGE MURRAY, G.C.B., G.C.H.

*Appointed 6th September, 1823.*

REMOVED to the First, or the Royal Regiment of Foot, on the 29th December, 1843.

SIR JOHN MACDONALD, K.C.B.

*Appointed from the Sixty-seventh Regiment on the  
15th January, 1844.*



## SUCCESSION OF LIEUTENANT-COLONELS

OF THE

## FORTY-SECOND ROYAL HIGHLAND REGIMENT.

Names.	Dates of Appointment.	Dates of Removal, &c.
Sir Robert Monro .	Oct. 25, 1739	Promoted to Colonelcy of Ponsonby's Regt., June 17, 1745.
John Monroe .	July 17, 1745	Died in 1749.
John Campbell .	May 24, 1749	Promoted to Colonelcy of Fifty-sixth Foot, December 23, 1755.
Francis Grant .	Dec. 17, 1755	Promoted to be Colonel-Commandant of Ninetieth Regiment, February 19, 1762.
Gordon Graham .	July 9, 1762	Retired December 12, 1770.
Thomas Graeme .	Dec. 12, 1770	Retired September 7, 1771.
Thomas Stirling .	Sep. 7, 1771	Promoted to Seventy-first Regiment, February 13, 1782.
Norman Macleod .	March 21, 1780	Removed to Seventy-third in 1786, which regiment was formed from second battalion of the Forty-second Regiment.
Charles Graham .	April 28, 1782	Promoted to a regiment serving in the West Indies, November 30, 1796.
William Dickson .	Sep. 1, 1795	Retired March 3, 1808.
James Stewart .	Dec. 14, 1796	Retired September 19, 1804.
James Stirling .	Sep. 7, 1804	Promoted to rank of Major-General, June 4, 1814.
Robert Lord Blantyre	Sep. 19, 1804	Exchanged to half-pay, late Eighth Garrison Battalion, May 6, 1813.
John Farquharson .	March 3, 1808	Retired April 16, 1812.
Robert Macara .	April 16, 1812	Killed in action, June 16, 1815.
Sir George Leith, Bt.	May 6, 1813	Placed on half-pay, December 25, 1814.
Robert Henry Dick .	June 18, 1815	Exchanged to half-pay, November 25, 1828.
Hon. Sir Charles Gordon .	Nov. 25, 1828	Died at Geneva, September 30, 1835.
William Middleton .	Oct. 23, 1835	Retired August 23, 1839.
George Johnstone .	Aug. 23, 1839	Exchanged to half-pay, September 5, 1843.
Henry Earl of Uxbridge	Sep. 5, 1843	Retired September 5, 1843.
Duncan Alex. Cameron	Sep. 5, 1843	Now commanding the regiment.

SUCCESSION OF MAJORS  
OF THE  
FORTY-SECOND ROYAL HIGHLAND REGIMENT.

Names.	Dates of Appointment.	Dates of Removal, &c.
George Grant . .	Oct. 25, 1739	Died in 1742.
James Colquhoun . .	June 24, 1742	Retired in 1745.
Francis Grant . .	Oct. 1, 1745	Promoted December 17, 1755.
Duncan Campbell . .	Dec. 17, 1755	Killed at Ticonderago.
Gordon Graham . .	July 17, 1758	Promoted July 9, 1762.
John Reid . .	Aug. 1, 1759	{ Exchanged to half-pay, February 10, 1770.
John Mc Neil . .	July 9, 1762	{ Died in 1762.
Allan Campbell . .	Aug. 15, 1762	{ Placed on half-pay on the reduction of the regiment, March 18, 1763.
John Murray . .	Feb. 10, 1770	Retired March 31, 1770.
Thomas Graeme . .	March 31, 1770	Promoted December 12, 1770.
Thomas Stirling . .	Dec. 12, 1770	Promoted September 7, 1771.
William Murray . .	Sep. 7, 1771	{ Promoted to Twenty-seventh Regiment, October 5, 1777
William Grant . .	Oct. 5, 1777	Retired August 25, 1778.
Charles Graham . .	Aug. 25, 1778	Promoted April 23, 1782.
Patrick Graham . .	March 21, 1780	Died October 22, 1781.
Walter Home . .	April 28, 1782	Retired March 16, 1791.
John Campbell . .	Oct. 23, 1781	{ Died March 23, 1784.
Hay Macdowall . .	March 24, 1784	{ Removed in 1786 to Seventy-third, which corps was formed from second battalion Forty-second Regiment.
George Dalrymple . .	March 16, 1791	Promoted to Nineteenth Foot, December 31, 1794.
William Dickson . .	Jan. 14, 1795	Promoted September 1, 1795.
Robert Pigot Christie . .	Sep. 1, 1795	Died June 23, 1796.
William Munro . .	Sep. 2, 1795	{ Promoted to Caithness Legion Fencibles, October 21, 1795.
James Stewart . .	Oct. 21, 1795	Promoted December 14, 1796.
Alexander Stewart . .	June 24, 1796	Retired September 7, 1804.
James Stirling . .	Dec. 14, 1796	Promoted September 7, 1804.
John Farquharson . .	July 9, 1803	Promoted March 3, 1808.
Archd. A. Campbell . .	July 9, 1803	Died in February, 1809.
Charles Macquarie . .	Sep. 7, 1804	Retired May 2, 1811.
James Grant . .	Sep. 7, 1804	Retired November 14, 1805.
Robert Macara . .	Nov. 14, 1805	Promoted April 16, 1812.

Names.	Dates of Appointment.	Dates of Removal, &c.
Thomas Johnston .	March 3, 1808	Exchanged to half-pay, Bradshaw's Levy, July 14, 1808.
Robert Henry Dick .	July 14, 1808	Promoted June 18, 1815.
Hamilton Rose .	Feb. 9, 1809	Died in October, 1811.
William Munro .	May 2, 1811	Exchanged to half-pay, Royal Regiment of Malta, May 30, 1811.
William Cowell .	May 30, 1811	Retired April 8, 1826.
Maxwell Grant .	Oct. 10, 1811	Placed on half-pay, December 25, 1814.
Robert Anstruther .	April 16, 1812	Placed on half-pay, December 25, 1814.
Archd. Menzies .	June 18, 1815	Retired December 25, 1828.
James Brander .	April 8, 1826	Promoted to an unattached Lieut.-Colonelcy, August 15, 1826.
William Middleton .	Aug. 15, 1826	Promoted October 23, 1835.
John Malcolm .	Dec. 25, 1828	Died at Cork, November 14, 1829.
Hugh Andrew Fraser	Dec. 3, 1829	Exchanged to half-pay, unattached, May 4, 1832.
George Johnstone .	May 4, 1832	Promoted August 23, 1839.
James Macdougall .	Oct. 23, 1835	Now serving with the regiment.
Duncan Alex. Cameron	Aug. 23, 1839	Promoted September 5, 1843.
Charles Dunsmure .	Sep. 5, 1843	Now serving with the regiment.





APPENDIX  
TO  
THE HISTORICAL RECORD OF THE SERVICES  
OF THE  
FORTY-SECOND,  
ROYAL HIGHLAND REGIMENT.

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THE Regiment of Highlanders, as stated in the Regimental 1743 Record, embarked from Gravesend for Flanders in the month of May, 1743. Arriving at Brussels about the end of May, they were not in sufficient time to share in the *Battle of Dettingen*, which took place on the 16th of June of that year. They were encamped near Hanau until August, when they advanced towards the Rhine, and were employed in West Germany until October, after which they returned to Flanders.

The Highlanders continued in quarters at Brussels until the 1744 spring of 1744, when the Allied Army under the command of Generals Wade, Count Maurice of Nassau, and the Duke d'Arenberg, passed the Scheld in July, in order to bring Marshal Saxe, commanding a division of the French army, to an engagement.

The French army in Flanders had been considerably weakened by a detachment of 30,000 men having been sent for the defence of Alsace, where Prince Charles of Lorraine, commanding the Austrian army, had been successful. Marshal Saxe, finding his corps inferior in numbers to the Confederates, threw up strong entrenchments behind the Lys, between Ghent and Courtray, and remained on the defensive until he received a reinforcement under the Duke de Clermont.

The Allied generals advanced towards *Helchin*, where they formed an encampment in two lines; but the enemy being so

advantageously posted that they could not attack him with any prospect of advantage, they filed on in sight of Tournay, and on the 8th of August encamped in the plains of *Lisle*, in hope of drawing Marshal Saxe from the situation in which he was strongly fortified : here they foraged for several days, and laid the country under contributions, but they made no attempt on the place itself, which, being provided only with a weak garrison, would, in all probability, have fallen into their hands, had they invested it on their first approach ; but the Allied generals had not artillery sufficient for such an undertaking, and were dilatory and indecisive. Marshal Saxe seized an opportunity of throwing a considerable re-inforcement into the garrison, and the Allies, after remaining until the end of September in sight of *Lisle*, and making a general forage with little molestation, concluded to send their heavy baggage to Ghent, and to return to their former camp on the Scheld, from whence they marched into winter quarters.

Marshal Saxe, finding that the Allies did not venture to attack him, at length quitted his lines, and by way of retaliation, sent out detachments to ravage the Low Countries, even to the gates of Ghent and Bruges.

So ended the campaign of this year, in which the difference of opinions in the Allied generals, when a superiority was evident, tended to the disadvantage of their respective Sovereigns, and to the prejudice of the general cause: their conduct was severely censured at home as well as abroad.

1745 While preparations were making for a vigorous campaign in the spring of 1745, the death of the Emperor Charles VII. took place at Munich on the 20th of January ; this event created a material change in the affairs of the Continent, and in the features of the war. The Grand Duke of Tuscany, Consort to her Hungarian Majesty Maria Theresa, was immediately declared a candidate for the Imperial Crown, while his pretensions were warmly opposed by Louis XV. and his allies.

Although the French King could not prevent the elevation of the Grand Duke to the Imperial throne, he resolved to humble the House of Austria, by making a conquest of the Netherlands: a large army was assembled there under the

command of Marshal Saxe; and His Most Christian Majesty, with his son, the Dauphin, honoured the army with his presence: the French army invested the strong town of *Tournay*, which was defended by Baron Dorth, who made a vigorous defence.

The war was thus continued, by France invading Flanders, and taking its fortified towns, for the national glory, and by the determination of England and her allies to reduce the pride of France, who, with her usual vanity, presumed to arbitrate in the affairs of European States.

The Duke of Cumberland having arrived from England on the 10th of April, assumed the command of the Allied armies; he was assisted with the advice of Count Konigseck, an Austrian general, and of the Prince of Waldeck, commander of the Dutch forces: although the Allied armies were greatly inferior in number to the French, it was resolved that they should march to the relief of *Tournay*: they accordingly advanced to *Leuse*, and, on the 28th of April, took post at *Maulbrè*, in sight of the French army, which was encamped on an eminence from the village of *St. Antoine* to a large wood beyond *Veson*, having *Fontenoy* in its front.

The next day (29th April) was employed by the Allies in driving the French from some outposts, and clearing the defiles, through which they were obliged to advance to the attack; while the French completed their batteries, and made the most formidable preparations for their reception.

On the 30th April the Duke of Cumberland having made the necessary dispositions, began his march to the enemy at two in the morning: a brisk cannonade ensued; and about nine both armies were engaged. The British infantry drove the French beyond their lines; but the left wing, consisting chiefly of Dutch infantry, under Prince Waldeck, failing in the attack on the village of *Fontenoy*, and the cavalry forbearing to advance on the flanks, they measured back their ground with some disorder, from the prodigious fire of the French batteries. They rallied, however, and returning to the charge with redoubled ardour, repulsed the enemy to their camp with great slaughter; but being wholly unsupported by the other wing, consisting principally of Austrians, under the Count Konigseck,

and being exposed, both in front and flank, to a dreadful fire, which did great execution, the Duke was obliged to make the necessary dispositions for a retreat about three o'clock in the afternoon.

The battle was fought with great obstinacy, and the carnage on both sides was very considerable; the Allies lost about twelve thousand men, including a number of officers. The victory cost the French almost an equal number of lives.

Although the attack was generally considered to have been rash and precipitate, the British and Hanoverian troops fought with such intrepidity and perseverance, that if they had been properly sustained by the Dutch forces, and their flanks covered by the cavalry, the French would probably have been compelled to abandon their position.

The Duke of Cumberland left his wounded to the humanity of the victors, and retiring to Aeth, encamped in an advantageous situation at Lessines. The garrison of Tournay, though now deprived of all hope of succour, maintained the place to the 21st of June, when the governor obtained an honourable capitulation.

After the conquest of this frontier, which was dismantled, *Ghent* was surprised and taken by the French army: *Ostend* was then invested, which, though defended by an English garrison, and open to the sea, was, after a short siege, surrendered by capitulation on the 14th of August: *Derdermonde*, *Oudenarde*, *Nieuport*, and *Aeth*, underwent the same fate, while the Allied army lay entrenched beyond the canal of Antwerp. Louis XV., having subdued the greatest part of the Austrian Netherlands, returned in October to Paris, which he entered in triumph.

The following account, illustrative of the martial character of the Highlanders of Scotland, has been extracted from a very interesting work entitled "*The Black Watch*," by Andrew Picken:—

"In the month of April, 1745, the HIGHLAND REGIMENT was encamped as part of the great army of the Allies on the level plains of Cambroon, within a few leagues of the celebrated fortifications of *Tournay*, then closely invested by an advanced division of the French army.

"The Highland soldiers, having been trained to the routine formalities of military discipline during two years' residence in a foreign country, were now engaged in active preparations of various sorts; and, in common with the legions with which they were surrounded, there ran through them, from their Colonel downwards, that restless excitement and hopeful uncertainty, usually experienced by soldiers on the eve of an expected battle.

"The scene around them was well calculated to stir up the spirits of men of less imagination than is known to belong to the enthusiastic offspring of the Fingalians. The present ground had been selected for concentrating the scattered divisions of the army; and large bodies of troops, both infantry and cavalry, belonging to the different powers in alliance with the English, were still arriving and forming, in extended lines, or regularly shaped masses, on the various points of this vast encampment. The whole plain seemed to glitter with arms, or to move in squadrons of military array.

"In the morning of the 28th of April, the whole collected army began to move in two immense columns along the plain from Cambroon towards *Tournay*, which it was the object of the Allies, if possible, to relieve. In front, the Dutch troops were employed to drive the French out-post parties from several villages, in which they lurked for observation and annoyance, and to clear the woods of the mounted Chasseurs. Forming part of this column, and protected by strong parties of cavalry, squadrons of pioneers, with shovels and axes, hastily repaired the roads over which the trains of artillery were to pass: and, placed among the first of the great column, the thoughtful Highlanders of the

Black Watch were allowed to beguile the toils of the march by an occasional strain of their own bagpipe, or by singing, or repeating in groups among themselves, stirring snatches of Gaelic songs, to animate them by the thoughts of their own country.

"At length, as the day drew to a close, the army was gratified by a sight of the ancient and dark bastions of *Tournay*, while the occasional roar of the distant cannon, and the more appalling glare of burning hamlets and villages, whose smoke rising frequently in the calm evening sky, gave many indications of the fatal realities of war!

"With the exception, however, of a little skirmishing in the left distance, while dislodging the enemy from a place called *Leuse*, the day had passed over in the calm murmurs of a long march: and, at near sundown, on a fine still evening, a halt was commanded, as the columns of the army spread along a series of undulating heights, overlooking the valley of Fontenoy. This pleasant rural valley, with its quiet hamlets and winding road, was between the two armies: the whole scene, as it now lay in the view of the sentimental mountaineers of the Watch, was still and impressive. Beyond the valley, and partly concealed by a wood to the right, the conical tops of the French tents could be seen, interrupting the clear line of the horizon, as the army lay encamped on both sides of the Scheld, which swept away in a crescent bend behind Fontenoy: further on, the distant gleams of the river, in the evening sun, were lost beneath the broad glacis of Tournay, about four miles distant, and the turrets of that ancient city mixed as softly with the tints of day, as if no hostile army at that moment invested its walls.

"Each regiment now composing the array of the allies was permitted to rest where its bivouac happened, and soon fires began to be lighted along the whole line, and camp-kettles to be in requisition; haversacks were rummaged by hungry men; a busy communication took place with the bread-waggons in the rear; and the whole army was formed into groups on the turf, or among the corn, and began to enjoy its evening meal. The vedettes being posted in the valley, and other arrangements made for the night, the officers of the Watch, having received no orders except to rest upon their arms, concluded that another day at least would pass before any engagement; and, wrapping themselves in their plaids, they betook themselves to sleep.

"A few hours after sun-rise on the following morning (29th April) the *Black Watch* and the neighbouring squadrons, which formed the avant-guard of the army, observed signs of activity on the opposite heights, which gave warning of some coming movement. From along the margin of the wood, that stretched away to the right, as well as over a green rising ground near the town, there issued several squadrons of light cavalry, which, descending forward, scoured, with picturesque audacity, the long sweep of the valley. After them, several detachments of infantry slowly emerged from the wood, and, preceded by mounted staff officers, seemed to disappear among some concealed hollows of the valley.

"Presently a galloping of aides-de-camp took place along the line of the British, and soon the *Black Watch* was ordered to be in readiness to aid in clearing the plain of the concealed infantry, and in covering a reconnoitring party, which was to consist of the Duke of Cumberland himself, accompanied by the chiefs of the army. By this movement it was intended, that the Highland Regiment should have its loyalty put fairly to the test, by being brought in contact with the enemy immediately under his own eye. The Highlanders received this order with joyful animation, and they were determined to show what, as soldiers, they were able and willing to perform.

"Scarcely had they unfurled the Scottish standard, accompanied by another body of gentlemen, called the Queen's Free Regiment, with a large detachment of pioneers and twelve squadrons of horse, under the command of Lieutenant-General Sir James Campbell, than, as they marched down the hill, their eyes were greeted by an interesting sight to a soldier. This was the Commander-in-Chief himself, and his whole Staff and coadjutors in the war, consisting of the Princes and Marshals of the Allied Army, whom it was the proud duty of the Highlanders and Queen's Regiment to protect on their reconnoitring expedition.

"Foremost past their line came the Duke himself, a large man, with the fair round face and full eyes of his family, clad in the wide-sleeved scarlet coat of the time, and a small three-cornered laced hat, bravely crowning a comely white periwig. In common with most of his friends, the Duke wore the large

horseman jack-boots, in which Charles the Twelfth seemed to take such pride : he was mounted on the same tall grey horse, which, in the following year, carried him in the sanguinary field of Culloden.

"Beside the Duke rode the Dutch Prince Waldeck, whose short square figure appeared in a tight coat of dark blue turned up with white, his breast well studded with stars and orders.

"On the other side of the Commander-in-Chief, the swarthy countenance of Count Konigseck, the venerable representative of the Queen of Hungary, and chief of the Austrians then in the field, appeared, under a low round helmet of burnished brass, which, with white body-coats and long breeches (afterwards known in England by the name of *pantaloons*) formed the general costume of his German Legion.

"Besides these personages, there was the Hanoverian General Zastrow, dressed in green and black ; the Hessian General, Ligonier, in the picturesque costume of his noble cavalry ; General Ingoldsby, together with the English General Lord Albemarle, and the Scots Earl of Crawford, who had fought under Prince Eugene on the banks of the Danube.

"All these, together with their numerous suites and aides-de-camp, formed an assemblage which might well excite the attention of the admiring Scotsmen.

"The drum beat, as soon as this interesting cavalcade had passed, and down moved our Highlanders into the hollow ! Scarcely had they crossed the dry rivulet, when a large body of the enemy's cavalry showed their light-blue uniforms over the rising-ground to the left of Fontenoy, and, sweeping down the face of the height, until they edged the wood, wheeled round, and came rattling up the hollow. The front division halted nearly in front of the Highlanders, and ranged themselves in audacious defiance, as if for the protection of a body of infantry which now showed itself, as the Highlanders came close upon the ravine.

"The Hessian hussars, and English dragoons, under the command of Sir James Campbell, now descending in two divisions to support their infantry, the *Black Watch*, increasing their pace to that rapid trot, which is their favourite movement on their own hills, soon perceived the whole road and ravine lined with



ight troops, in such a manner, that, had their Colonel permitted them to rush in upon their enemy as they wished, their own impetuosity might have had the most dangerous effects. A loud hurrah now rose upon the right; and the cavalry rushed past, after discharging a volley among the French horsemen; the latter gave way, and leaving the infantry to their fate, galloped off up the centre of the valley.

"With joy the *Black Watch* now got the word to *fire*, which they did with a steadiness that had a sure effect; and having smelt gunpowder for the first time, volley after volley passed between them and the enemy, with a rapidity that seemed but to add to the eager excitement of the attack. A few shots came booming from the distant batteries of Fontenoy, tearing up the earth in front of the Highlanders, under cover of which the French infantry fell back, and, part climbing the ravine, began to return towards the village. To have allowed the Highlanders to follow would have been the height of imprudence; and scarcely had they been marched to more level ground, when another body of the French appeared behind the hedge-rows by the banks of the stream: these they drove back with the same gallantry as before, though now exposed to a species of fire, at that time much of a novelty in the practice of war.

"As they marched on, following the enemy through thick fields of waving grain, an irregular and murderous fire issued from some unseen enemy in the corn-fields, which all the vigilance of the Highlanders could not elude. This was from a corps, afterwards called '*Sharp-shooters*,' but then known by the name of '*Grassins*,' from their lying among the grass, and taking off prominent individuals from their concealment; but the *Black Watch* were too well accustomed to the patient manœuvres of deer-stalking in their own country to be outdone by the French green-coats, for it was upon this occasion, that a Highlander, unable to get 'a pop' at his hidden enemy, stuck his bonnet on the top of a stump in the corn, which the Grassins firing at repeatedly, supposing it to be a man, the Gael hid himself in turn, and was soon enabled to bring him down.

"A dash of the French cavalry, in front of the Highlanders, now enabled their infantry to draw gradually off; and the

reconnoitring cavalcade coming up as the smoke cleared away, the Duke himself took off his hat, and waving it round his head, answered, with a strong compliment to their bravery, the loud cheer of his gallant *Black Watch*! Delighted with the issue of this rapid skirmish, the Commander would have galloped on almost to the batteries of Fontenoy, but Count Konigseck and others, representing the danger, even from the numerous Grassins still concealed in the corn, His Royal Highness was persuaded to keep to the bottom of the valley: the flying squadrons of the French having been completely cleared from the plain, the drum beat again, and the whole detachment returned with pride towards the main body of the army.

"As evening again drew on, it was evident from the movement of cannon towards the front, and other preparations along the lines, that the following day was fixed for the decisive event. The army again rested on their arms; but though the men lay under the clear canopy of heaven, the result of the coming struggle dwelt too anxiously on the minds of many to permit them to sleep. 'In the midst of life we are in death,' say the solemn words of the Church Service, and never does this truth come home more strongly to the bosoms of the most courageous, than in the stillness of private thoughts on the eve of a great battle. The near chance of death drives us strongly into a review of the events of past life.

"In an instant flames burst forth from the houses of the little village of *Veson*, almost in the centre and front of their position; some soldiers, in the wantonness of war, having set it on fire, while the Commander-in-Chief and his Generals were at supper in their tent. A bustle now rose in this part of the bivouac, and a detachment of the *Black Watch* was summoned to rouse in silence, and proceed immediately to join the outposts in the plain, as a party of observation upon the movements of the enemy, in consequence of the alarming light of the burning hamlet. The party halted towards the middle of the valley: the quick tramp of the visiting outposts, and the challenge of the sentinels, were the only sounds that disturbed the dull ear of night, and so perfect was the silence, that even the pattering of the hammers, or other tools, of the French in building their redoubts, could be heard over the distant hum of

some midnight stir in the French camp. This stir, (as appeared from the accounts of several deserters, now captured in the valley,) was occasioned by the artillerymen hurrying their guns and ammunition all night over the bridge from the opposite side of the Scheld, on both banks of which the army lay encamped; for, as the King was expected in person on the field, the cautious German (Marshal Count de Saxe), who commanded the French and the Bavarians, was taking every precaution, which science and long experience could dictate, to secure the success of a day, which might decide, perhaps, the fate of France.

"The unheeded fire of the village now began to burn low; everything remained quiet in the plain; and as daybreak began to streak the east, the party of the *Black Watch* was ordered back to its post, to wait in silence the expected movement.

"Individuals never speak of their poor relations. Nations never speak of their defeats. This is the reason why so few in England know aught of the great and most picturesque *Engagement of Fontenoy*.

"The clock had just struck *two* on the morning of the 30th of April, 1745, and the gleaming sun had not dispersed the morning mist that lay on the plain, ere the long string of lines composing the army of the Allies began to show, along the sloping heights, an activity ominous of expected battle.

"Drums began to beat a hasty call, in broken intervals, throughout unseen miles where the squadrons had bivouacked; the tramp of horses next was heard on all sides, to which the wheeling of artillery, now hurried forward towards the front, added a murmur of stirring confusion, while, above all, the clear note of the brazen trumpet came musically upon the ear from the distance, blowing at intervals on the early breeze, a loud breath of the coming war.

"The French also, beyond the plain, were already astir, bringing forward their troops by a corresponding movement; and ere five had tolled on the steeple of Fontenoy, few scenes could give a more exciting idea of the imposing and animating splendours of battle.

"Not a gun had yet been fired to obscure the clear outline left by the dispersion of the mist; and now the long masses of party-coloured legions, stretching line behind line, and rank

beyond rank, appeared like picturesque belts of shining splendour upon the green ground of the sod, their spiky arms glancing at every movement in the slanting sunbeams, like silver scales upon the fiery dragon of war. Though the front legions of the French only could yet be seen on the opposite slopes, the whole show of both armies, with a green interval in the bottom of the valley between them, had the effect of a regular, but splendid confusion; and it was necessary for the eye to rest upon details, in order to obtain a distinct idea, as well of the field of expected encounter, as of any specific portion of the pageant.

"Looking across the plain from the spot where the allied army was posted, the foremost object was the small village of *Fontenoy*, nearly in the centre, and somewhat in advance of the French position. This town stood excellently well for a front point of defence, and an object of contention to divert the energies of the allies; and accordingly, Marshal Saxe had caused it to be surrounded with redoubts, in such a manner as not only to make it most dangerous to approach, but an excellent cover for the operations of his army.

"At the distance of about an eighth of a mile to the left of Fontenoy—that is, to the *right* of the allied troops—a thick stunted wood, called the *Bois de Barri*, stretched away towards the Scheld behind, and confined, as well as protected, the French position. To strengthen this point more, and to prevent the British forcing their way past Fontenoy, over the swelling ground between it and this wood, the Marshal had not only filled the Bois with Grassins and Chasseurs, but erected two strong redoubts at its angle facing the village, so that it might be between these fires that it would be necessary to pass, to get fairly at the intrenched enemy. It was in this comparatively confined space, and partly exposed to this cross-fire, that the great struggle ultimately took place, as it was opposite to this point that the British and Hungarians were chiefly posted.

"On the right of Fontenoy, and receding a little from it—that is, opposite to the *left* of the Allied line, the position of the French was further strengthened and concentrated by another village, called *St. Antoine*, which the wary French Marshal had burnt before the allies came up, in order to convert its blackened walls into suitable fortifications for the protection of his army.

As, however, the space between this village, which covered his right flank, and Fontenoy in his centre, was much greater than that between the latter place and the wood at his left, the Marshal had opened trenches the whole way between the two villages, and built three redoubts, at equal distances, in the space, to strengthen by their cannonade this intermediate defence: and thus, with the rows of artillery, which this morning filled up the interstices, a line of cannon was drawn along the whole position, which might appal an army less confident of victory than the British have always been. In addition to this, the approach to these defences was interrupted in the plain, particularly near the centre, by a deep and difficult ravine, which, together with the sloping nature of the ground, was well calculated to embarrass an attacking enemy.

"With all these natural and artificial advantages on the side of the French and Bavarian army, there was yet one thing against it which well might alarm the scientific caution of its great Commander: this was, that it had the Scheld in its rear, with only one bridge crossing it, for a league and a half towards the camp before Tournay, which, in case of being obliged to abandon its ground, would have been nothing for the hasty passage of a large retreating army.

"No wonder, then, at the great pains the Marshal had taken to fortify his front position, and to line with cannon the important bridge of Calonne, or his extreme anxiety for the safety of his army, and of the important personages who were this day destined to join him in the field. Even on the further side of the Scheld, and rather beyond St. Antoine, that is, at the extreme right of his position, the Marshal had raised a battery of long guns, which, firing across the river upon the left flank of the allies, succeeded afterwards in doing considerable execution.

"Near this battery, on a rising-ground, there stood a quaint-looking ancient *windmill*, which, though not particularly lofty, was so situated as to be easily seen by the whole army: this windmill, insignificant as it appeared, had something to do (as hereafter shown) with the result of this important day! On the top of the spire of Fontenoy, namely, in the advanced front and centre of his lines, Count Saxe had stationed an officer

with a glass, to give him, by signals, constant intelligence of the movements of the Allies.

"On the side of the Allies, a few words will suffice to give a general idea of their arrangements at the commencement of the action\*. The *left wing*, led by *Prince Waldeck*, was chiefly composed of Dutch infantry, formed in two long lines from St. Antoine to Fontenoy; the men dressed in white coats turned up with orange, large cocked hats and orange cockades; these were protected at the extreme flank by the Austrian Hulus, or lancers, wearing dark green doublets, with low brass helmets, surmounted by thick tufts of black bear-skin.

"The Dutch infantry were joined, nearly opposite to Fontenoy, by various squadrons, formed line behind line, composed of Hessian, Hanoverian, and Austrian infantry, whose dark green, white cloth, yellow, and black dresses, the crimson Turkish trowsers of the Hungarians, the high scarlet caps of the chasseurs, and the steel helmets and breast-plates of the cavalry, mixed oddly enough with the scarlet coats, philebegs, and targets, proudly worn by the Scottish Gael.

"Next to these *centre battalions*, of which the *Duke of Cumberland* himself took the command, the *right wing* of the army, led on by *Count Konigseck*, was composed chiefly of English and Austrians in two long lines, reaching nearly to the wood; the long-tailed scarlet coats and white sugar-loaf caps of the latter, variegated as their lines were with numerous standards, and platoons of artillery, contrasted brilliantly with the picturesque dresses of the foreign cavalry with which they were flanked and intermixed. This wing of the army, together with the assistance from the centre, being destined to attack on the difficult space between Fontenoy and the wood, the Duke of Cumberland, Konigseck, and Albemarle, were either generally together, or, by means of their aides-de-camp, in constant communication.

"At six o'clock a gun, fired from the extreme left, was the signal for the commencement of the action, and its blue smoke had scarcely dispersed in the clear morning air, when all the columns began to move down towards the bottom of the valley; the cavalry trumpets sounded, and their cohorts pranced proudly between the lines, the very horses seeming im-

\* The *Black Watch* was nearly in the centre among the avant-squadrons.

patient for the charge; the artillery wheeled on in front and at the flanks of the regiments with matches ready lighted, and several mortars behind these came rolling heavily down the hard ground on the face of the hill. The sound of a hundred drums rolling along the line, mixed with the clang of trumpets, to animate to the attack; nearly a hundred standards of different colours and nations fluttered in the light breeze.

"At this period, as the army was going up to the attack, a loud shout was heard running along the French lines opposite, now partly hid from the Allies by the swelling ground beyond the ravine, by the village in its centre, and by the projecting point of the wood. This magnificent and sonorous huzza from a body of eighty thousand men, arose from a cause well calculated to give animation to chivalrous troops! It was a welcome to their King himself, who, together with the Dauphin, a youth of fifteen, and their splendid suite, were, at this moment, passing the bridge over the Scheld, and coming in person on the field of battle!

"While this was going on behind, a small cavalcade could be seen moving in front of the French lines, which well might interest the eager observer; this was the celebrated Marshal Saxe himself, who, being afflicted with dropsy, and hardly able to move, was borne on a litter in front of his lines, and, feeble as he was, inspecting everything with his own eyes.

"The Allied lines moved gaily on, and the word 'fire' ran along the line of the advanced artillery from right to left, while a moment after, the long guns of the French began to boom from the redoubts round Fontenoy: the whole line of French artillery in their front began to open their fire, as the Highlanders, and their neighbouring regiments, again crossed the brook in the valley.

"The *Black Watch* were led on to an attack upon the entrenchments of Fontenoy.

"While this was doing in the centre, the Duke despatched *General Ingoldsby* on the right, with four regiments, to take possession of the *Wood of Barri*, and if possible, of the two redoubts so well situated for galling the Allied flank; but the crafty French allowed the Brigadier to get close up to the wood, where their chasseurs and grassins were lying flat among the



grass, before they discovered themselves: starting up when the English were almost upon them, their sudden and murderous fire hrew his men into instant disorder; the long cannon of the redoubts being also at the moment pointed direct upon them: falling back upon the cavalry, he sent to General Sir James Campbell for some cannon to play upon the redoubts. This brave general had scarcely undertaken to supply the artillery, when his head was carried away by a ball from the redoubts, and the detachments, and their surviving leaders, were thrown by this event into further confusion. A crossing in the orders, and a complication of misunderstandings, completed these disasters; and after considerable delay, and the loss of many men, the Brigadier finally retired from the wood without effecting his object, and the batteries continued to fire on.

"The *Black Watch* and other neighbouring squadrons were now unfavourably situated, exposed to the incessant fire of cannon, and unable to get at the French infantry intrenched within the village, and posted beyond the ravine. As yet their ardent valour was almost thrown away; for, unable to use their broadswords and small arms, the only thing they were allowed to do was to march up towards the enemy, to the sound of their own bagpipe, and pouring in a volley upon them, as near as they could, to clap down at full length on the sod, leaving the showers of shot to pass over them. This mode of fighting the French perceived from behind their trenches with as much astonishment as they did the bare limbs and strange dresses of the hardy Gael; but Sir Robert Monro, their Colonel, being a large fat man, never attempted to lie down with his men, from a reasonable fear of not being able to get up again, and thus, while all lay flat in the corn on each side of him, he stood in the centre of his regiment, with the colours behind him, exposed to the fire of the enemy.

"In the mean time a tardy, though well-sustained, attack was made along the left wing by the *Prince of Waldeck* and his Dutch troops against *St. Antoine* and the intrenched enemy, and their forts stretching between both villages; this, however, was not less ineffectual than those on the right; and now a large detachment of Dutch and Hanoverians were ordered to 'run into' Fontenoy: this last body, in thick phalanx, marched up the



slopes pretty steadily, almost to the cannons' mouths; but, finding themselves received as they little expected, with a fire indeed that was truly appalling, they became alarmed, and, thinking themselves unsupported, while mowed down by hundreds, they turned and fled hastily down the height, overthrowing and trampling under foot a squadron that was marching to their assistance.

"But no French cavalry being in the way to take advantage of this repulse, and the corps to the right and left remaining firm, a second grand attack was, after a short time, made on the two villages and the line of intervening redoubts, almost the whole army coming close up under cover of about sixty pieces of artillery and eight mortars, and supported by flying squadrons of dragoons and lancemen. The field now presented an exciting spectacle. Even the air above the heads of the advancing combatants was filled with bombs, which, with their long trains, arose in successive circles out of the plain, and dropped, like falling stars, into the centre village. Marshal Saxe being at this moment with his aides-de-camp in the streets of Fontenoy, one of them fell and burst almost at his feet.

"But though the Dutch drew a second time close to St. Antoine, and the Hanoverians and British, including the *Black Watch*, marched with a loud huzza up to the very muzzles of the cannon of Fontenoy, some of the Allied squadrons hung back, and the more valiant were not suffered to pursue their advantage. The successive battalions were thus ultimately forced to retire, with such slaughter, particularly on the left, that one whole Dutch squadron was swept away by the cannon of St. Antoine, leaving only fifteen men to run back on the rear to tell the tidings.

"Until about ten o'clock the battle had chiefly consisted of attacks upon the fortified points of the enemy's position, which the Duke of Cumberland found himself unable to carry, while his brave men never could get opportunity of a fair struggle with the French infantry, who kept chiefly under cover of the heights beyond. Confident in their valour, he resolved to order his whole left wing to pass the ravine in front, and force their way on the French lines between Fontenoy and the wood. The battalions and their officers, British and Austrian, proceeded to

obey this order with brave alacrity ; although in order to avoid the hollow way, they were obliged to pass close to the enemy's redoubts on the right. Towards the left of this wing, near Fontenoy, where the hollow way deepened into the long ravine, the confusion and slaughter were dreadful as the men clambered up its front, for the cannon from the wood raked nearly its whole length. Nevertheless, in the midst of the fire and the blinding smoke, the artillerymen hauled up their cannon by such by-paths as they could find, and the *Black Watch*, though opposite to the most difficult bank, were among the first to scramble up the steep, and form on the other side in the face of the enemy. The squadrons, composing almost the whole right wing of the army, passed successively over this difficult ground, and forming on the green height beyond in three solid columns, each four deep, again moved steadily forward. The regularity and bravery of this movement astonished the French, although effected under a cross-fire from the redoubts, which at times mowed down whole ranks ; the body marched on to the sound of the stirring drum and the animating scream of the Scots bagpipe from amidst the *Black Watch*, as if performing the leisurely evolutions of a review.

“ This great column marched on, holding its fire until the more advanced regiments, namely, the English Guards, and the Royal Scots, &c., under Lord Albemarle, and General Churchill (a natural son of the famous Marlborough), arrived within forty paces of the French army beyond the height, which they saw now ranged in line to oppose them.

“ A cluster of French officers, dressed in splendid doublets of blue and gold, consisting of the Duke de Biron, the Counts D'Auterache and Chabannes, &c., appeared in front, while several of the King's pages, in the sumptuous costume of the court, were galloping along the field, carrying intelligence to His Majesty of the progress of the engagement. Over the heads of the French columns, in front of the British, and crowning a pretty height behind them, near an ancient sacristy, called the Chapel of our Lady in the Wood, the white and richly blazoned standard of France was seen floating before the green foliage of the wood over as imposing a company as ever stood on a field of battle. Here was His Majesty Louis XV. himself,

with buckler and breastplate, military Spanish cap and long feather, accompanied by the Dauphin his son, in light blue, richly embroidered; the latter, surrounded by twelve noble youths, of about his own age, of the first families in France; the whole presenting a splendid and animating spectacle.

"The English generals, somewhat in front, saluted this gay group of French nobility by taking off their hats; the Duke de Biron and the Count de Chabannes advanced and returned the compliment; the whole of the officers then returned to the heads of their respective regiments: the pause, which followed all this courtly politeness, had a strange and impressive effect upon the witnesses, as well as the actors, in this scene.

"Too gallant to be the first to begin the work of death, each seemed to wait for the other, when Lord Charles Hay, then a Captain of the English Guards, called out in French, 'Gentlemen of the French Guard, fire!' One of the French Counts before named, answered with a loud voice (as Voltaire relates the circumstance), 'Gentlemen, we never fire first; fire you first.' Lord Charles Hay then gave the word in English, 'Fire!' which beginning at the right, went rapidly along the line in divisions, and thus the running fire went on with terrific celerity! Its effects were soon felt on the opposite ranks of these gallant men!

"This compact triple line marched forward, firing regularly, as it advanced, with the steady coolness of a review-day! Unable long to stand before this murderous column, the Swiss Guards and several other regiments successively abandoned their ground: new columns came up and attacked in succession, sheltering themselves often, while they fired, behind the heaped rows of their fallen comrades.

"The great column still moved on, deepening and becoming more compact as it advanced, the men stepping over the dead bodies of their comrades, as they still boldly faced the enemy, and whenever their men dropped, filling up the breach with a coolness, as if individually emulous of expected death. Soon the open ground began to be narrowed by the projecting wood, and, to avoid being taken in the rear, the two extremes of the column folded back on each flank, thus putting the whole into the form of a hollow square, open at the rear, now just above

the ravine which the column had passed some time before. The front still advanced like a thick beam of men, supported at the extremities by two strong pillars, and upon these, on each side, the successive charges of the French could make no impression. In vain did the Bavarian Hulans, with their long lances and grim black costume,—or the heavy Normandy Dragoons, clad in steel breast-plates and pot helmets, with the fan-shaped feather in front, raise their startling huzza in the face of the Royal Scots, or breast up their horses to the points of the bayonets of the English Guards. The same terrific fire was poured in among them; the same steady resistance met their successive charges; until, spent with continued efforts, and the flower of their officers, including the brave Duke de Grammont, being successively cut down, they retired in dismay from a body of infantry which seemed absolutely impregnable!

“Marshal Saxe now became seriously alarmed, and entreated the royal princes to repass the bridge over the Scheld for fear of the worst; but no representations could induce His Majesty to move, although accounts came in, that at *Fontenoy* the shot, deficiently supplied in the confusion of the morning, was all expended, and its numerous guns were only firing powder to keep up appearances. Every thing now, on the French side, wore the worst aspect, and a renewal of the disastrous day of *Dettingen* seemed almost inevitable.

“Marshal Saxe rode forward to try what could be done against the Allied square, by the help of a brigade of Scots and Irish, under Lord Clare, then in the French service, with some other regiments hastily ordered from the St. Antoine side of the field, where the Dutch at this time were giving the French but little trouble. The Marshal rode about in great anxiety, in the midst of the fire, directing everything, and encouraging the bravery of the young French nobility; but though terrible charges were still made on every side by the flower of their chivalrous aristocracy, animated by the presence of their Sovereign; though they again breasted with their horses the bayonets of the English; and though, in one of these charges, a whole squadron was cut down in the midst of the British ranks, except fourteen troopers, who at one place broke through the entire column, eight of these last being killed before they got

through the last line, and six only being made prisoners\*; and though prodigies of valour were performed, every vacancy in the ranks was instantly filled up, and the whole still moved forward over numberless dead bodies, until they found themselves almost in the midst of the French camp.

"The battle now seemed won; and already, in the assurance of victory, the whole Allied columns set up a shout of triumph, which was heard above the thunder of the cannon, even as far as the ramparts of Tournay, on which the Flemish soldiers had crowded to obtain a distant view of the battle; understanding the meaning of the hurrah that was borne on the gale, they answered it with a corresponding shout, and then ran down to make a sortie on the besieging squadrons of French immediately underneath their walls.

"The discomfited troopers of the French squadrons were now forced back in disorder to the very place where the King and his son were posted, so that, at one time, the two Princes were actually separated by the dismayed crowd of soldiery that came tumbling in upon them in the terror of retreat. His Majesty, however, showed no inquietude, and still refused to seek safety for his person by crossing the bridge.

"Marshal Saxe now sent orders to the Count de la Marck to evacuate his position in St. Antoine, and to move back towards the bridge on the Scheld, to favour his retreat, in case of disappointment in a last effort against the British columns; but the Count, mortified at the idea of giving up his position to the tardy Dutch, who, though doing nothing now to assist the victorious English, were ready to take possession of his guns, and to turn them on his King the moment he abandoned them, dared to disobey. The day, however, seemed past hopes to the French, and even the artillery were now whirling in, in numbers, from the front of the field.

"Distracted with anxiety for his Sovereign, Marshal Saxe sent a second order for the evacuation of St. Antoine, and despatched another officer to command the blowing up of the windmill, formerly mentioned, a measure, which had been previously arranged, as a general signal in case of retreat;

\* These six men were sent back by the Duke of Cumberland on the following day, from regard to their bravery.

but the miller, a poor man, with a family, entreated the officer not to destroy his mill, as it was all he depended upon for bread. The officer hesitated, both from humanity to the miller, and from the natural unwillingness of a Frenchman to give to his brother soldiers so unwelcome a signal. The parley caused by this simple circumstance afforded those few minutes of time, during which fate chose to wave her omnipotent wand to the entire changing of the destiny of the Battle of Fontenoy!

"From some extraordinary infatuation or incapacity, the Duke of Cumberland, at this time far in the rear of the victorious column, stood looking on, unsuspectingly, at the empty powder-firing from the French redoubts, and never sent one of his reserve squadrons,—either of infantry, to take the village, now exhausted of ammunition,—or of cavalry, or other support, to that brave body of British soldiers who were gaining him the battle! The front line of the great square, seeing themselves in the middle of the French position, therefore, halted, and began to imagine that they had proceeded too far. Looking frequently behind for a sight of their own dragoons to aid them against the incessant attacks of the French troopers,—the officers receiving no orders,—and the victorious soldiers no support, they began to look at each other with a blank uncertainty, nearly five thousand of those who originally crossed the ravine being, by this time, dead on the field behind them.

"At this moment, while Marshal Saxe looked impatiently towards the mill for the concerted signal, and suffered the utmost apprehensions, lest he should not only lose the battle, but lest the Royal hopes of France themselves should fall into the hands of their enemies, the Duke of Richelieu, a familiar favourite of the King's, proposed to His Majesty to try the effect of four of the field-pieces, then coming in from the front, upon the angle of the great English square: '*for,*' said he, '*should we be able to break the columns there, and throw the square into any disorder, if we come upon it vigorously with your Majesty's household troops, and attack simultaneously on other places, I'll lay my life that the day is our own still.*'

"In a short time the four cannon were brought to the proper spot, and, being pointed with accuracy, completely shot away

the close-wedged angle of the square, making a double breach through it, even in the opposite side. This mode of attack was so unexpected, and its effects so appalling, at this moment of alarming uncertainty, that the men hesitated to step into those frightful gaps, instant destruction appearing to be the penalty.

"The French household troops, hitherto forming the reserve in the rear of His Majesty, now advancing with fury, rushed into the breach like a stream, filled the square, to the consternation of the columns, the Carabineers attacking at the same moment, and after pouring in their fire at the muzzles of the English guns, drawing their short swords, and stooping low to the charge, went hand to hand with the astonished Allies: the musketeers, with their long guns and bayonets, now came up with other squadrons, and a struggle took place, such as the whole day had not witnessed.

"The remains of the great square, now entirely broken, gave way on every side, and the disunited divisions, mingled with the enemy's cavalry, fled in horrible confusion down those slopes, now thickly covered with dead, which they had but a few hours before mounted so valiantly.

"When the whole of the vanquished got fairly into the valley, the remains of the Highlanders, and of other regiments, were rallied to cover the retreat; and the men of the *Black Watch* were cheered for their bravery, even by the Duke in person, they having had the honour to be first in the front ranks, and last in the rear, on this memorable day.

"Though the day was not far advanced, it being only two in afternoon when the great square was broken, Marshal Saxe was too glad of his unexpected success to be very zealous in the pursuit; so, after a little skirmishing by the cavalry with the British rear in the plain, and the taking of a few prisoners and more cannon, the old Marshal and the elated French officers crowded round the King and the Dauphin, to congratulate His Majesty on his great and hard-won victory!"

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The following letter from MAJOR-GENERAL JAMES STIRLING, who commanded the FORTY-SECOND ROYAL HIGHLAND REGIMENT at the battle of Corunna on the 16th January, 1809, is appended to the Regimental Record, in reference to the details given in pages 119 and 120, which require correction.

*Musselburgh, 30th March, 1830.*

SIR,—A few days ago I perused the *Annals of the Peninsular Campaigns*, and at page 92, vol. ii., it is stated, that from some misapprehension, the FORTY-SECOND Regiment had retired at the battle of Corunna.

Having had the honour to command the FORTY-SECOND Regiment in that action, I feel it incumbent on me to state to you, that what relates to the FORTY-SECOND (under that paragraph) is very inaccurate. The FORTY-SECOND never retired, as therein stated, or evinced occasion for a brief but animating address from the General.

On the advance of the French to the village of Elvira, Sir John Moore allowed the enemy to deploy, and form their line at half-musket-shot from us. He then gave me orders (about half-past two o'clock) to advance and charge with the FORTY-SECOND, accompanying that order with the words, "*Highlanders, remember Egypt!*" which is the only address they received from him, or any one else.

As soon as the regiment had given their fire, and drove the enemy with the bayonet to the bottom of the ravine, Sir John directed me to halt the corps, and defend that position; and turning myself round to him when he gave the order, I saw him, at the moment, struck to the ground off his horse, and I immediately sent a party to carry him from the field.

The Grenadiers and First Company not hearing my word of command to halt, continued the charge a little in advance, as did the Light Company also; when I was ordered by Lord William Bentinck, commanding the brigade, to recall them, and form them in line with the regiment, and in that

position, as directed by Sir John Moore, the corps continued, in close action with the enemy, until night put an end to the contest, when the piquets were posted on the ground occupied by the regiment, who then retired, as ordered, with the rest of the army to the bivouacs occupied by the troops at the commencement of the battle, and which we quitted at ten o'clock the same night for embarkation.

I have the honour to be,

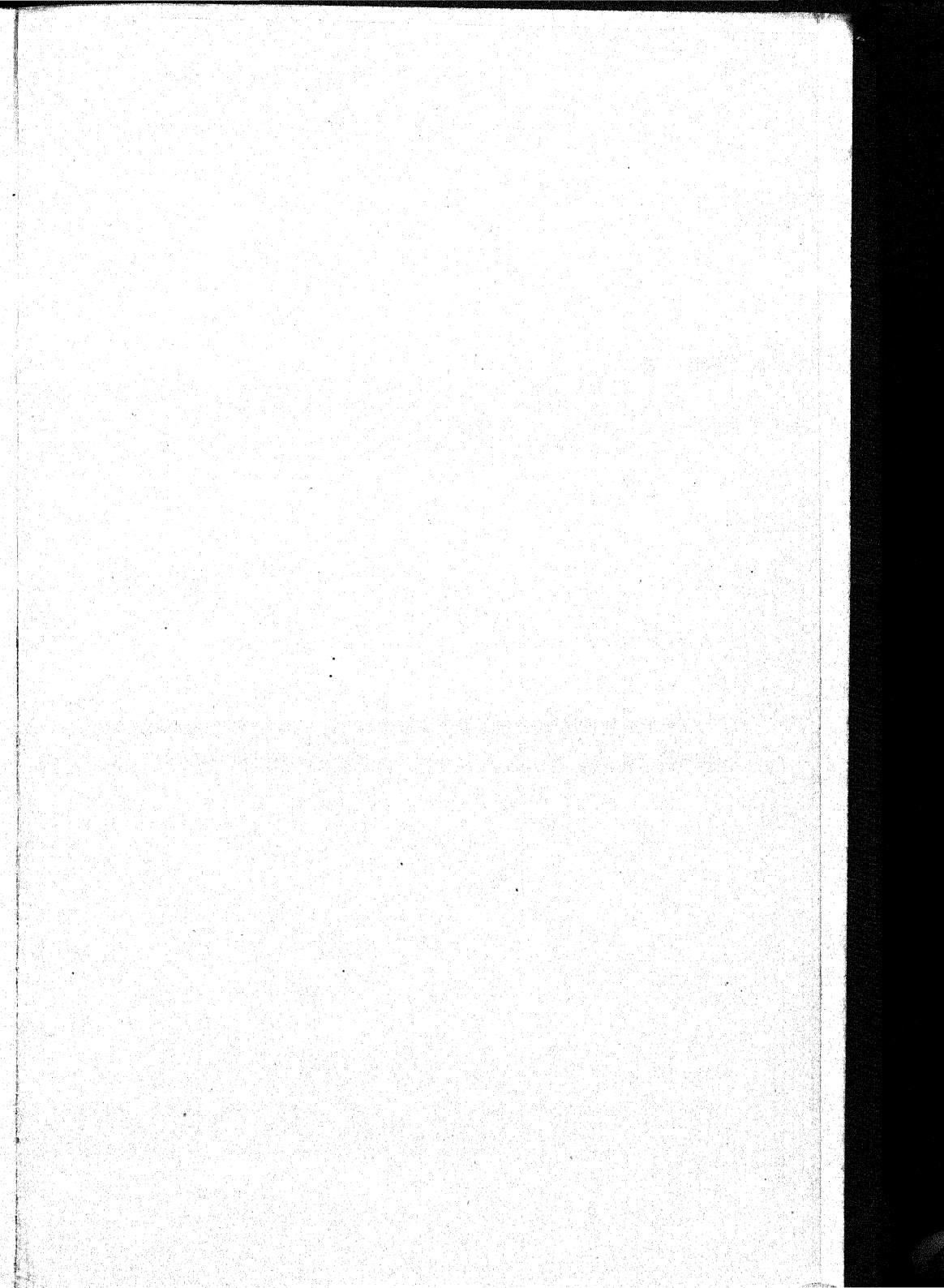
Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

(Signed)      J. STIRLING, *Major-General,*  
*late Lieut.-Colonel Forty-second Regiment.*

*To the Editor of  
The Edinburgh Magazine.*

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